

## NARC-2009: Drought Tolerant Wheat Variety for Rain-fed Area

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Wheat variety NARC-2009



Ears of NARC-2009

### Contributors:

**Dr. M. Yaqub Mujahid, Breeder / Coordinator**

**Dr. Zaheer Ahmad, Breeder**

**Mr. M. Anwar Khan, Breeder**

**Mr. Muhammad Asif, Breeder**

**Mr. Maqsood Qamar, Breeder**

**Dr. Imtiaz Hussain, Agronomist**

### Challenge

- Wheat yields in rain-fed area are low due to moisture stress at critical times.
- Also, rust may pose potential threat to wheat yield.
- Challenge was to develop drought tolerant, high yielding wheat variety resistant to yellow and leaf rust, for rain-fed area.

### Interventions

- During 2003-04, PARC acquired the wheat germplasm of diverse origins from CIMMYT.
- From 2003-08, the germplasm were evaluated through standard breeding procedures in various country-wide trials.
- In 2009, the variety has been released for rain fed area after the approval of Punjab Seed Council.

### Outcomes

- The wheat variety NARC-2009 has following attributes:
  - high yielding;
  - drought tolerant; and
  - resistant to leaf and yellow rusts.
- The variety has produced 5.3 tons/ha in National Uniform Yield Trials under rain-fed conditions.
- It is medium duration variety and matures in 155 days.
- It also has good chapatti making quality.

### Way Forward

- Development of contractual seed production system for rapid multiplication and accessibility to farmers
- Development and release of new high yielding varieties with all desirable characteristics