



U.S. WHEAT  
ASSOCIATES

*National Association  
of Wheat Growers*

---

## **WHEAT INDUSTRY PLANT BREEDING INNOVATION POSITION STATEMENT**

The U.S. wheat industry recognizes the importance of new technology in breeding to farmers, customers, and consumers and supports plant-breeding innovations that can address wheat production, yield, and quality needs. We take the following positions:

1. We believe that plant breeding innovation and new technology in agriculture are vital for the continued sustainability and success of U.S. wheat production.
2. We recognize the value of robust breeding programs that utilize all available tools to ensure that the U.S. remains a leader in the production of high-quality wheat in consistent, reliable supplies.
3. We believe that these new technologies not only benefit farmers, customers, and consumers, but also can have positive impacts on the environment and long-term health of U.S. agricultural land.
4. We support science-based regulation where necessary and encourage the U.S. government and the governments of our trading partners to take steps to ensure open trade flows that are not impeded by the introduction of varieties developed through plant breeding innovation.
5. We support the development of varieties that have benefits for our farmers, our customers, and consumers. These include disease-resistance traits, end-use quality traits, health traits, and climate stress traits.
6. We support continued wheat research and partnership between public university research programs, private companies, and public sector entities.
7. We urge the adoption of a nationally and internationally accepted definition of plant breeding innovation that clearly differentiates these methods from traditional biotechnology. We also urge international harmonization of scientific standards and trade rules.

*Adopted by U.S. Wheat Associates on June 24, 2018; and the National Association of Wheat Growers on November 2, 2018.*