

## WIREWORM CONTROL ON WHEAT IN IDAHO

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A total of 14 wireworm control trials were initiated at previously identified infested field sites throughout Idaho. Wireworm species varied among sites but Limonius infuscatus and L. californicus were most abundant. Insecticide seed treatments were evaluated for both spring and winter wheat. Stand reduction from wireworm feeding was noted in every experiment and ranged from a low of near 15% (check compared to the best treatment) to a high of 73%. At one site wireworms essentially destroyed the spring wheat trials. Stand reductions in the unprotected fall-planted wheat allowed serious weed infestations to develop and differences in the appearance of the wheat among protected and unprotected wireworm plots were apparent all season. At one rain-fed site seed yields in the check averaged 9 bu/a compared to 35 and 43 bu/a where seeds were protected with a standard or experimental seed treatment, respectively. At an irrigated site, the average yield for the check was 47 bu/a compared to 81 bu/a for lindane as the standard seed treatment and 100 bu/a for an experimental seed treatment. In conclusion, yield potential was protected by seed treatments where damage was observed. Experimental seed treatments of Advantage or Amaze were superior in protecting seeds and seedlings from wireworm attack when compared to the standard lindane treatment. However, lindane protection was superior to untreated control plots.