NIFA Funding Accelerates Wheat & Barley Plant Breeding

The Triticeae* Coordinated Agricultural Project (T-CAP) is a USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Agriculture and Food Research Initiative grant that develops new wheat and barley varieties for changing environments. T-CAP addresses food security and nutrition demands of a growing population and helps ensure the prosperity of American growers.

T-CAP VARIETIES represent about 15% of the wheat and 4% of the barley harvested in the United States, with a production value of $1.8B and $61M, respectively.

**$1.8B PRODUCTION VALUE**

**WHEAT IN AMERICA**

- 2014 production: > $12B
- 2014 harvested acres: > 46.4M
- 2012 consumption per person: > 132 POUNDS
- is grown in 42 STATES with more than 63 VARIETIES developed by T-CAP

**BARLEY IN AMERICA**

- 2014 production: $870M
- 2014 harvested acres: 2.5M

**USED TO MAKE MANY POPULAR FOODS AND BEVERAGES**

**NIFA FUNDING ACCELERATES WHEAT & BARLEY BREEDING**

- FUNDS RELEASED TO UNIVERSITIES
- IDENTIFY DESIRABLE TRAITS
- BREEDING & FIELD TESTING
- SEEDS PREPARED FOR GROWERS
- FARMERS PRODUCE GRAIN CROPS
- GRAIN PRODUCTS SOLD AT MARKET

**T-CAP SUPPORTS PARTNERSHIPS BY:**

- UNITING the breeding and genetic research communities
- ENCOURAGING public-private collaboration
- INTEGRATING breeding efforts to avoid duplication
- FUNDING 56 participants at 28 institutions in 21 states across the country
- EMPOWERING the wheat and barley breeders and growers through federal funding
- ADVANCING science to maximize productivity

**T-CAP TRAINED STUDENTS HAVE BEEN HIRED BY:**

- 57 U.S. companies/foundations
- 40 U.S. academic institutions and/or the government
- 18 international venues

**MORE THAN 100 TRAINED STUDENTS**

*Triticaceae: A taxonomic group of grasses that include many domesticated grains such as wheat, barley, and rye.