

Wheat Fiber for Rural Wealth and Health Roundtable

Transforming Global Food Supply: Wheat Fiber as a Fuel for Rural
Wealth and Health

Dr. Rod Wallace
Foundation for Innovation in Healthy Food

November 7, 2024

Our New Paradigm

Rural Wealth and Health for All

- Agriculture and Public Health Working Together
- Better Commodities
- Saving Government Money WITHOUT Costing Households
- Triple win:
healthcare savings, farmer profit, and healthier communities.

Agenda



- Saving Lives at Global Scale
- Low-cost, World-Class Science
- Business Opportunity for Farmers
- How You Can Help



Who we are...

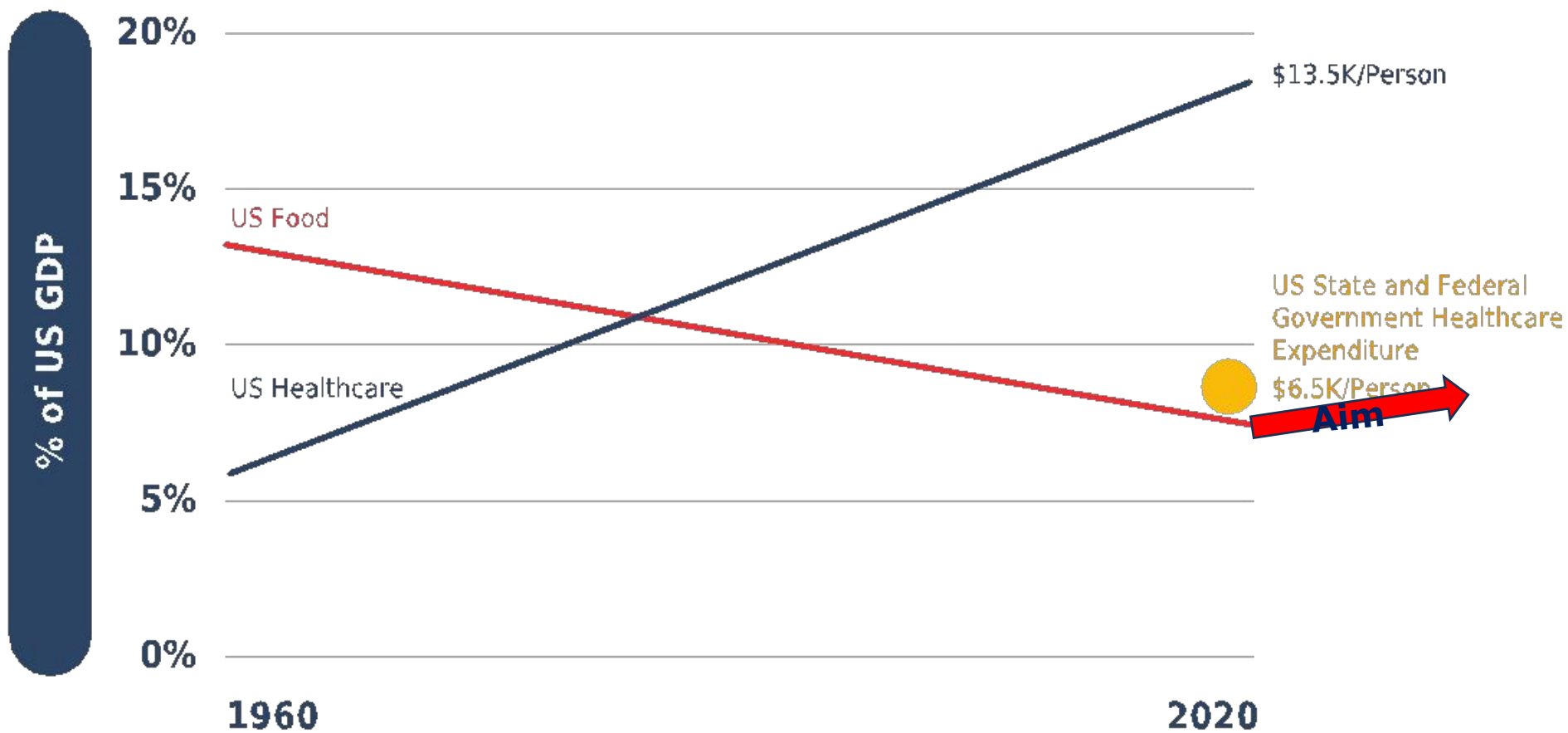


***Nonprofit 501(c)3 saving lives and reducing healthcare costs at global scale
by enhancing nutrition in commodity food supply.***

We Aim

Shift Trajectory of National Responses to Chronic Disease

US Share of Gross Domestic Product on Food and Healthcare, 1960-2020



The Power of Our Favorite Foods

- 20% of global calories and protein
- White flour fortification cuts birth defects 25-50%
- Largest source of fiber in American diets (33%)



Immense Cost of Chronic Disease Becomes an Opportunity

US Cost of
Cardiovascular Disease
(CVD) + Diabetes

+ Others

National
\$700 Billion
Each year

50 times larger than annual US
Wheat Crop (\$10-20B)

CUT by Dietary Fiber

Family of 5
Over \$10,000
Each year

Copying Food Industry's Proven Success Model



Little by Little, Better and Better

Cost

Fortification*

- Fluoridated water: cut cavities
- Fortified white flour: reduced birth defects
- Vitamin D dairy: nearly eradicated rickets

Food safety*

* 20th Century Greatest Public Health Strategies

Our Focus

Top 3 Foods' Diet Share

Global 51%

7 Foods 70%

US 33%

13 Foods 84%

Financial incentives building on existing policy and strategies

A Paradigm Shift Learned from History

Modest Improvement in Foods Eaten By Everyone Several Times a Day

Most Impactful Health Strategies

Fortification*

- Fortified white flour birth defects ↓
- Vitamin D dairy rickets ↓
- Others

Food safety*

Our Attractive Choices

Top 3 Foods' Diet Share

Global 51%	US 33%
7 Foods 70%	13 Foods 84%

Financial incentives building on existing policy and strategies

Without relying on consumers to change behavior

* 20th Century Greatest Public Health Strategies

The Star of Our Show

Increased Arabinoxylan Fiber Wheat (Lincoln, NE)



A 20-Year Path from an EU Study*

The Health Grains Movement for Better Wheat



Commercial viability *baked in*, plus:



Nutrition

- Increased Fiber
- Tocopherols
- Tocotrienols
- Vitamin B
- Others

Health Options

- Variation
- Scientific health support
- Population health
- Control

* Based on conversation with Peter Shewry, October 30, 2024

Making a Difference

Coalition for Grain Fiber: Natural, Innovative, Healthy, Prof



Natural, public-health focused **science**, at scale.

Align incentives for public health



High-quality, natural (non-GMO), **increased-fiber** commercial wheat: 85%+ success

*Nutrition Models**
Cardiovascular disease 1-3%
Diabetes Type II: 3-4.5%

*Reduction will depend on populations' actual diets

\$\$\$

Money for Farmers

Low Cost

Policy and Business Options

Current commodity supply chain; Current price on lowest-cost staples

* Hard wheat commodity supply; soft wheat opportunities may also be promising

Seasoned Commercial and Science Experts

Coalition for Grain Fiber



Seasoned Commercial Team



Rod Wallace, PhD
Business Strategies and



Fernando Arias, MBA

	# Members
Wheat Farmers	3
Supply Chain	3
Sales / Marketing / PR	7
Extension, Engagement	4
Other Advisors	6

Industry experience from across the food supply chain and beyond.

World-Class Science Advisors



Stephen Baenziger, PhD
Emeritus Professor and Wheat Growers Presidential Chair, University of Nebraska



Barbara Schneeman, PhD
Emeritus Professor, University of California, Davis Former Director of the Office of Nutrition, Labeling, and Dietary Supplements, US FDA



William Wilson, PhD
University Distinguished Professor, North Dakota State University



Ed Souza, PhD
Research Consultant, Former Global Director of Wheat Breeding, Bayer, and Director of a USDA Wheat Quality Laboratory



Andrew Benson, PhD
Food for Health Presidential Chair and Director, Nebraska Food for Health Center WW Marshall Distinguished Professor of Biotechnology, University of Nebraska, Lincoln



Peter Shewry, PhD
Former Assistant Director, Rothamsted Research



Jennifer Yates, PhD
Wheat Breeding Lead, Bayer Crop Science



Margaret R. Bath, PhD
Chair, CIMMYT Board of Trustees and Former Chief Technology Officer, Kellogg Company



Jan Delcour, PhD
Professor Emeritus, KU Leuven, and Chairman of the Leuven Food Science and Nutrition Research Centre (LFoRCe)



Bin Zhao, PhD
Senior Principal Scientist, Grupo Bimbo

World Class Science Team

Coalition for Grain Fiber



Leaders
Plant Breeding

Team
Members,
Advisors

38




Katherine Frels, PhD

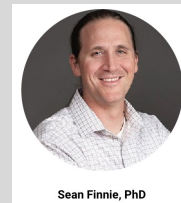


Kimberly Estlund-Campbell, PhD

End-Use Quality



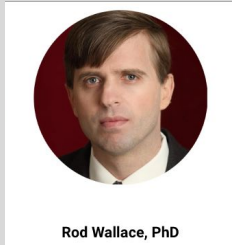
Maria Rita Biko



Sean Finnie, PhD

14


Socioeconomics



Rod Wallace, PhD
Business Strategist and

6

Nutrition / Health



Devin Ross

6

Agenda



- Saving Lives at Global Scale
 - Good science, financial incentives, and a world-class team

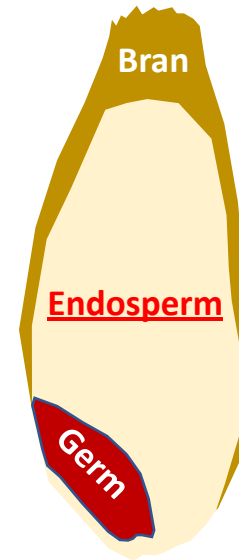
• Low-cost, World-Class Science

- Business Opportunity for Farmers
- How You Can Help



A Doable

Fiber Increase in White Flour and Whole Grain



Target fiber in
endosperm cell walls

PLANT BREEDING



- Building on 19 years research of commercial varieties
- Natural selection (non-GMO) with no yield loss
- Any region and wheat class
- Rapid introduction (5 years), with follow-on improvement
- Royalty free

END USE QUALITY



- Building on commercial varieties and decades of AX research
- HARD WHEAT: Commercial baking within commercial variation
- SOFT WHEAT: Best for doughy applications only

PUBLIC HEALTH

- Fiber is well-recognized as under-consumed nutrient of concern (US Dietary Guidelines, NASEM guidance)
- Modest increase, several times a day for billions of people
- No major side effects

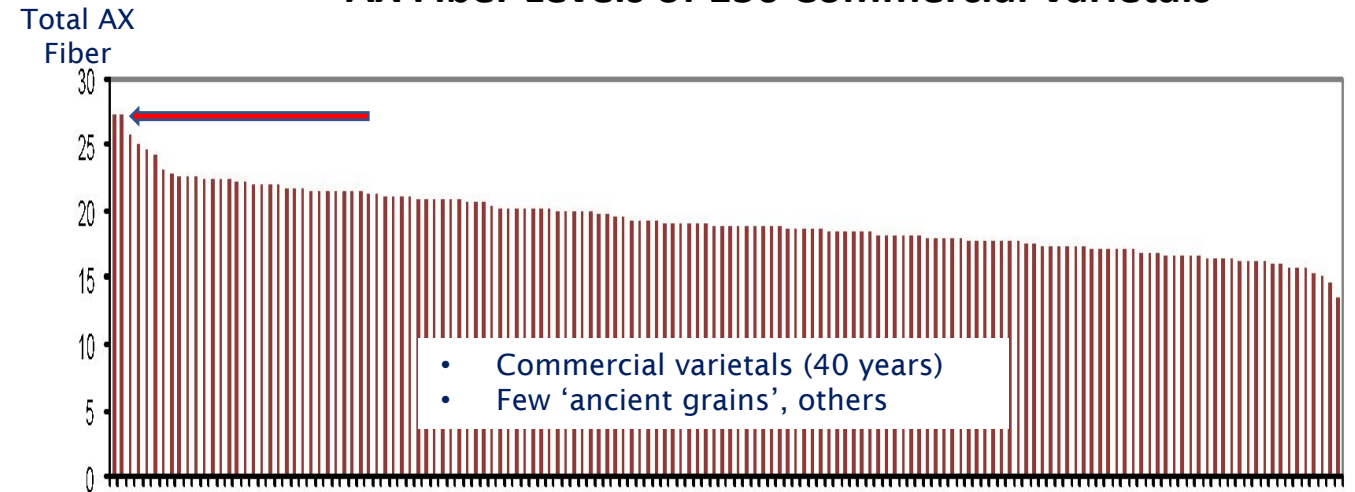
Doable

For the Commercial Farm Without Yield Loss



- Building on 19 years of US and UK research on commercial varieties
- Natural selection (non-GMO) with no yield loss; 85% likely success
- Any region and wheat class
- Royalty free

AX Fiber Levels of 150 Commercial Varietals



Plant Breeding Characteristics

- High heritability: 60-70%
- Amenable to selection
- No long-term yield loss or agronomic impact identified

Doable

For Rapid Development



- Rapid introduction (5 years), with follow-on improvement
- Royalty free



FIRST (Minimum Viable) PRODUCT: CURRENT VARIETALS

- UK
- US elite nurseries*
- Others

* 1st Commercialization by 2030



FOLLOW-ON OPTIMIZATION: BREEDING

- Increasing AX
- Executing back-crosses

Further Funding:

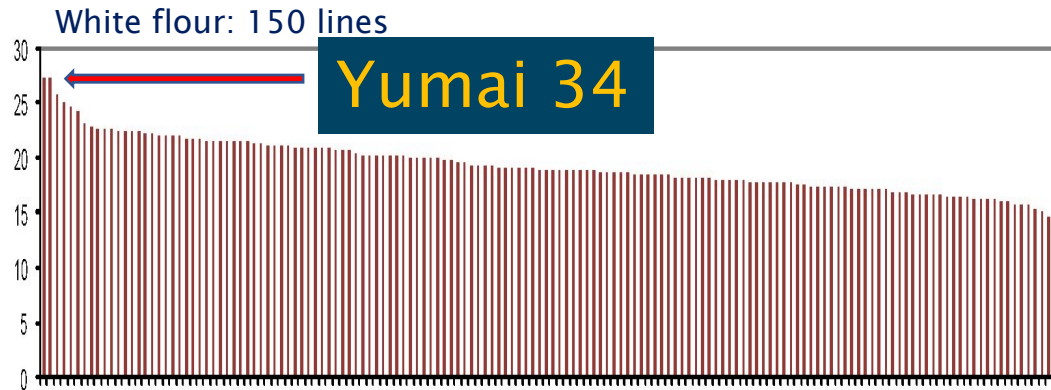
- Outlining un-accelerated and accelerated breeding (Winter, Spring, Soft)
- Estimated Budget: \$0.9-4.0 million / year
- USDA NIFA grant submitted October 10

Doable

Without Yield Loss

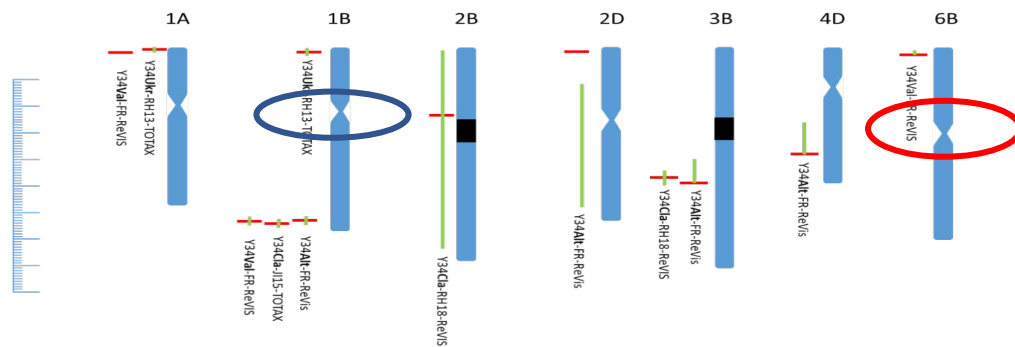
19-Years of UK and 3 Years of US Research, on Commercial Varietals

Total AX: 1.4-2.8%



Primarily:

- 40 years of commercial varieties
- Currently common 'ancient grains'



1B QTL: 16-24% of variation

6B QTL: 12% of variation

- High heritability: 60-70%
- Amenable to selection
- No long-term yield loss or agronomic impact identified
- Available **royalty free**

Doable

For the Commercial Bakery



- Building on commercial varieties and decades of AX research
- HARD WHEAT: Commercial baking within commercial variation
- SOFT WHEAT: Best for doughy applications only

END USE QUALITY CHARACTERISTICS

	Water Extractable AX	Water Unextractable AX
Hard wheat products (Bread)	Positive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in bread volume • Increase in gas retention • Stronger dough • Uniform crumb • Decreases staling 	Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease in bread volume • Interferes with gluten formation
Soft wheat products (cookies, crackers)	Positive for doughy applications, as above	Negative as above
	Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High water competition 	Negative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High water competition

Kiszonas, A. et al 2013
Coalition scientist in Western Wheat Quality Lab; conducting wheat tests

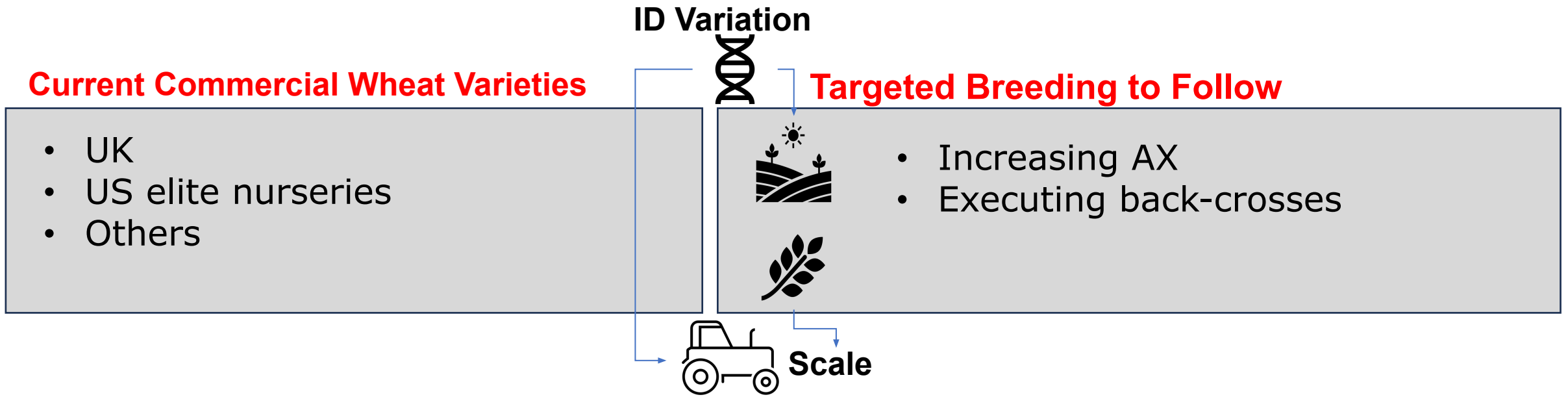
Negative impact eliminated by common endo-xylanase enzymes

Further Funding:

- \$140-230K / year budget
- Two USDA Grants Submitted

Doable

For Rapid Initial Development



- 1st Commercialization by 2030

Funding:

- Outlining un-accelerated and accelerated breeding (Winter, Spring, Soft)
- Estimated Budget: \$0.9-4.0 million / year
- USDA NIFA grant submitted October 10

Development Approach: Existing Varieties Followed by Plant Breeding



Current Commercial Wheat Varieties

- UK: 10% of commercial varieties have increased-fiber alleles
- Washington State identified AX variation in elite HRW nurseries
- Ongoing Testing

ID Variation



Targeted Breeding to Follow

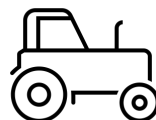


Introgress,
Test
Performance



Optimize

- Increased AX varieties in numerous programs.
- Executing back-crosses



Scale

- Target 1st Commercialization by 2030

Funding:

- Outlining un-accelerated and accelerated breeding (Winter, Spring, Soft)
- Estimated Budget: \$0.9-4.0 million / year
- USDA NIFA grant submitted October 10

Does The Wheat Bake Good Bread?

Yes: Positive for Doughy Applications, Although Negative for Dry, Soft Wheat Foods

Kiszonas, A. et al 2013

Coalition scientist in Western Wheat Quality Lab; conducting wheat tests



	Water Extractable AX	Water Unextractable AX
Hard wheat products (Bread)	Positive impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in bread volume • Increase in gas retention • Stronger dough • Uniform crumb • Decreases staling 	Negative impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease in bread volume • Interferes with gluten formation
Soft wheat products (cookies, crackers)	Positive for doughy applications, as above	Negative as above
	Negative impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High water competition 	Negative impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High water competition

Negative impact eliminated by common endo-xylanase enzymes

Science from Here: • \$140-230K / year budget
• Two USDA Grants Submitted

End-Use Quality (EUQ) Team

Deepening Knowledge to Understand and Minimize Impact of AX on Commercial Baking



Arabinoxylan Measurement



Processing Impact on Arabinoxylan (TDF)



Agronomic, End-Use Quality Impact on hard, soft-wheat foods



Processing with different levels of xylanases

Activity underway includes:

- Measurement of AX, TDF
- Regional AX Trials
- Xylanase impact planning

Funding:

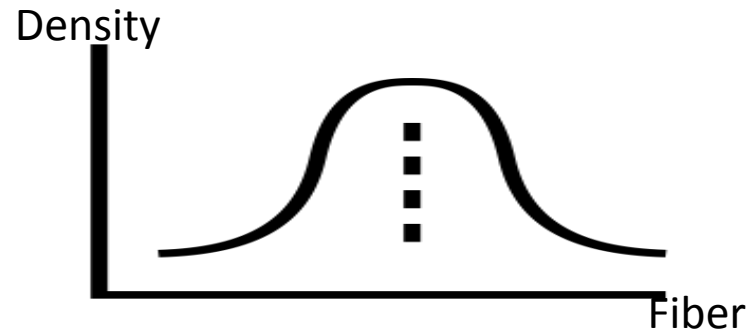
- \$140-230K / year budget
- Two USDA Grants Submitted

Creating Higher-Value Grains

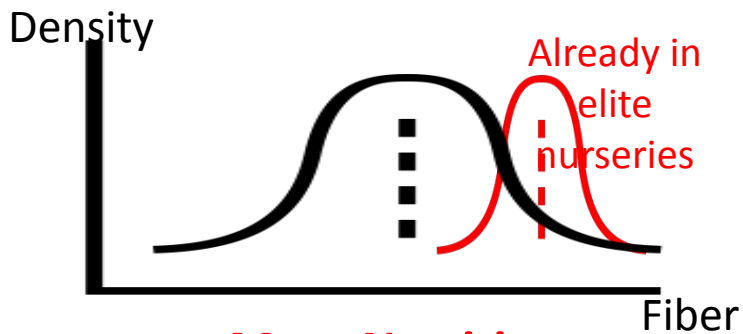
Increasing Average Fiber Level for a More Consistent Commodity



Current



Transition



**More Nutritious
= Better**

Less Variation



Further Improving



Doable For Population Health



Health Impact

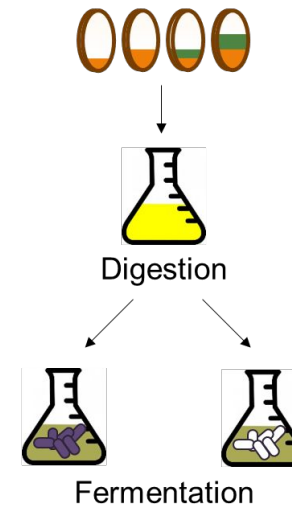
- “Under-consumption of dietary fiber is a **substantial public health concern** for the general U.S. population,” (NASEM / Dietary Guidelines) A global challenge.
- Modest increase, several times a day for billions of people
- No major side effects

Communication

- We aim to communicate the population health effort:
 - “Better wheat, better lives”
- Additional messages for some foods

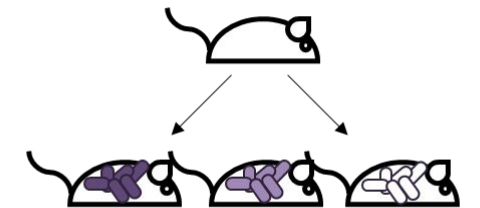
Ongoing CGF Science

In vitro test



Results consistent with hypothesis

Human microbiota-associated mouse study



Feed control low-fat (LF) diet or Western diet containing 30% wheat with varying fiber levels:

↓ 12 Weeks ↓

Further

Funding:

- \$100K added mice funding needed
- Human trials / Small Dose Statistics

Well-Recognized, Under-Consumed Fiber

With Attractive Communication Targets



Health Impact

- “Under-consumption of dietary fiber is a **substantial public health concern** for the general U.S. population,” (NASEM / Dietary Guidelines) A global challenge.
- Ongoing CGF Science:
 - In vitro test complete
 - Mouse study prepping

Consumer Communication

- We aim for industry to be able to communicate the socially responsible effort: “Better wheat, better lives” (with precedent)
- If you create an identity-preserved chain:
 - We target support for Structure/ Function: ‘Supports digestion / gut health’
 - Not current priority for disease reduction claim solely with AX increase
 - Not targeting “Added fiber” solely with increased AX

Is This First Step Enough?

A Step in the Right Direction for Billions of People



- More fiber in every baked good (Up to 2.5 g/ day, average)
- We expect chronic disease will retreat:
Nutrition Model*:
 - > Cardiovascular Disease **1-3%**↓ ()
 - > Diabetes type II **3-4.5%** (↓)
- **\$120** in benefits for each **\$1** in cost**
- Lives saved from the first introduction of increased-fiber wheat

- A step towards next efforts and more commodities

*Actual reduction will depend on populations' actual diets

** 13-year investment and farmers' incentives vs healthcare cost savings and value of lives saved.

Agenda



- Saving Lives at Global Scale
- Low-cost, World-Class Science
 - Doable, low-cost, life-saving study of commercial wheat

- Business Opportunity for Farmers
- How You Can Help



Bringing High-Fiber Wheat to-Market

Converting Commodity Supply Chain with Existing Business and Policy at Low Cost



Go-to-Market Roles for High Fiber Wheat

Convert Commodity Wheat Supply Chain at Lowest Cost



POLICY



VALUE CHAIN



GROWER



COMMUNITY

Health Incentive

Afternoon

- 2029 Farm Bill: Government saving money with good science
- Student + targeted community supply

Next Year

Food Commitments

- No discount

US, International Foods

- Grupo Bimbo increasing fiber
- Other Healthier Foods (e.g., Nishin)
- Export markets (Kenya example)

Farmer Leadership

- Wheat
- Follow-on Efforts

Morning, Afternoon

Resilience

Morning

- For farm, ecology, AND health

Community Support

Afternoon

Bringing Wheat to-Market, US Health/ Farm Policy



Pragmatic Health Policy in 2029 Farm Bill

Health Incentive

Government saves money by investing in increased-fiber wheat

Key support:

- Farmer leadership
 - Afternoon Strategy Session on 2029 Farm Bill
- Value chain support
- Urban + rural communities devastated by chronic disease
- Dieticians, other scientists

No Discount for Increased-Fiber Wheat

Follow-on Efforts

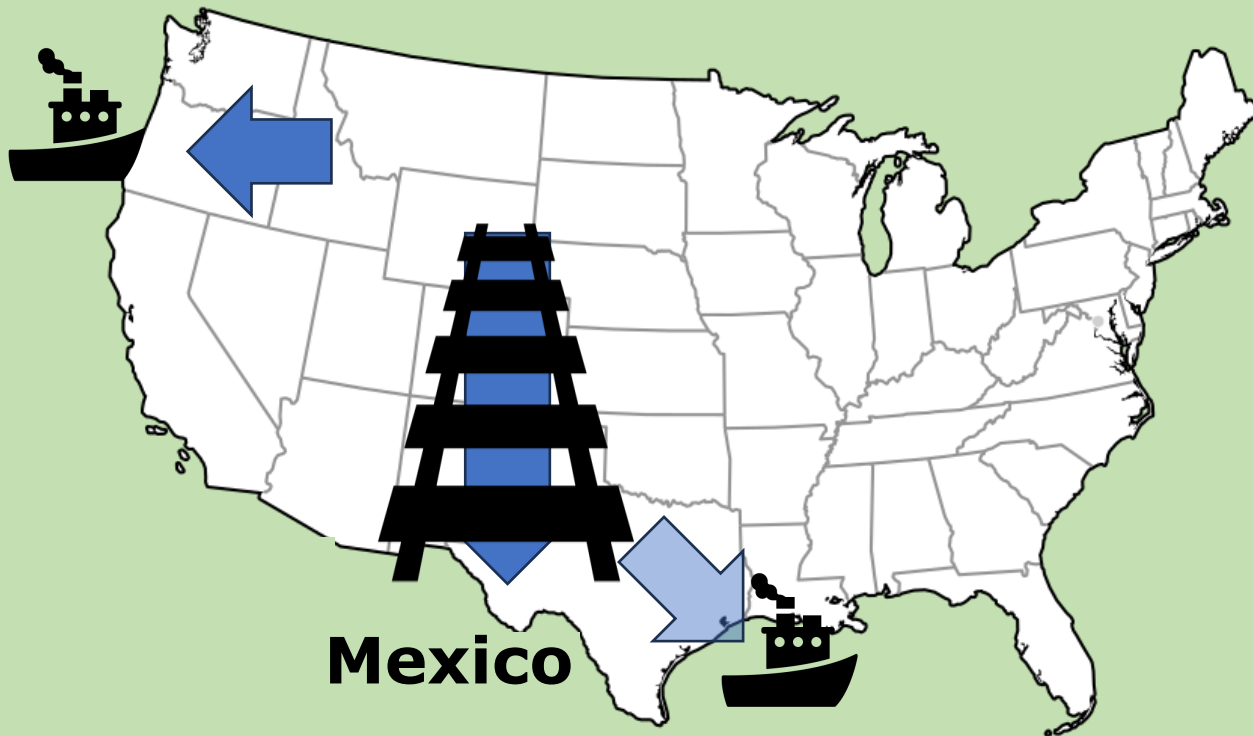
Support and scale from follow on opportunities in other commodities.

- Late Morning Discussion covering 51% of the US diet

Global Value Driving US Conversion, Beginning with Mexico



50% of Wheat Production is Exported



Others

Appear open to business case

US Exports

Mexico	18%
Japan, Korea, Philippines, Taiwan	25%
China	6%
Nigeria	3%
Colombia	2%
Others	46%

- Active Mexican food policy
- Grupo Bimbo announced fiber targets for 2030.

* Distinctions between soft / hard wheat classes.

Bringing Wheat to-Market, Strategy 3

More Opportunities



Traditional Healthy Products

- Options to deliver shareholder value with fiber standards and increased-fiber baked goods.
- With or without increased arabinoxylan fiber

Unique Supply Chains for Underserved Communities

- Options to deliver targeted nutritional value to underserved communities decimated by chronic disease

Resilience

- Revise ecosystem services targets to include harvested, increased-fiber wheat

Aligned Wheat Breeding

- Multiple Examples

The Coalition for Grain Fiber

Coordinated, Professional Activity at Low Cost

"Little Hinge"



Coordinating Nutrient Research and Health Policy

Roles and Funds Work

Small
Foundation

Scientists

Plant / Animal Breeding	Nutrition / Health
End-Use Quality	Socio-Econo mics

Stakeholders

Growers	Policy
Value Chain	Community

**Communicates and Coordinates
Teams and Roundtables**

**Each expert does their own thing
and funds their own thing (largely)**

Strong reasons to participate:

- A compelling reason for more money
- Introductions to new funders
- Save lives

Ongoing Roundtable Calendar

Engaging Stakeholders



**Wheat Fiber for Rural
Wealth and Health**



**Nov 7, '24
Nebraska**

<https://fihf.org/events/>



**Successes and Failures Introducing Consumer Traits
(Prior to Wheat Quality Council)**



**Feb 21 '25
Kansas City**



**Grain Fiber to Combat Health Disparities in African
American Communities,
(with Historically Black Colleges and Universities)**



**Nov 3-4 '25
Atlanta**



**Nutritionists, Dieticians
and Public Health**



**Oct '25
TBD**

How You Can Get Involved



Preparing a Path for Increased Nutrient Commodities

- Newsletter feedback ([FIHF.org](https://www.fihf.org))
- Discussions at industry events
- Ongoing work



Stakeholder Advisers, Board Members

- More industry Advisors / Board E.g., active, retired



Collaborate on Roundtables



Raising Money

- Letters of Support for Grants
- Financial support
- Introductions to potential funders

Agenda



- **Saving Lives at Global Scale**
 - Good science, financial incentives, and a world-class team
- **Low-cost, World-Class Science**
 - Doable, life-saving study of commercial wheat
- **Building Financial Support**
 - Policy and business strategy building on what's already there
- **How You Can Help**
 - We welcome time, talent, treasure– and introductions



Better Wheat, Better Lives.™



Questions

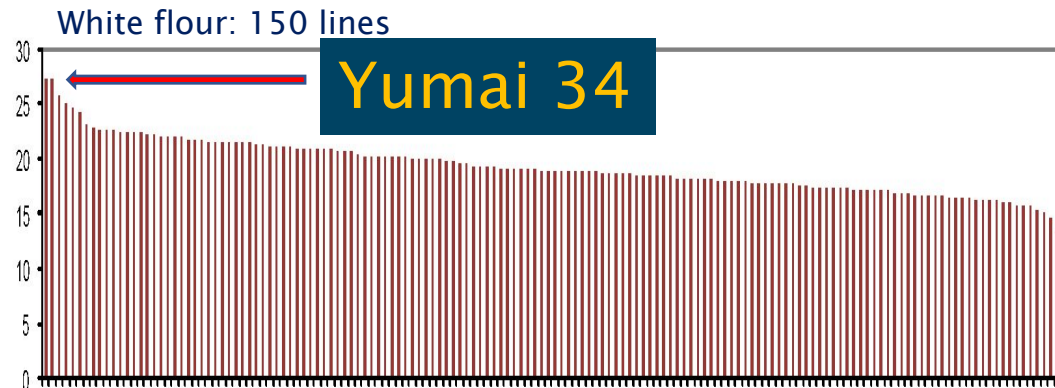
If your questions aren't answered, please complete the survey:

- What questions do you still have about what we're doing?
- What questions do you think your neighbors would ask about CGF and follow-on projects?

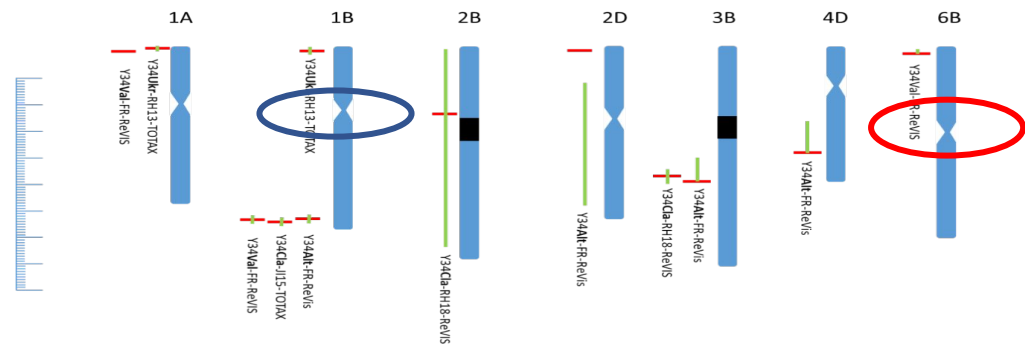
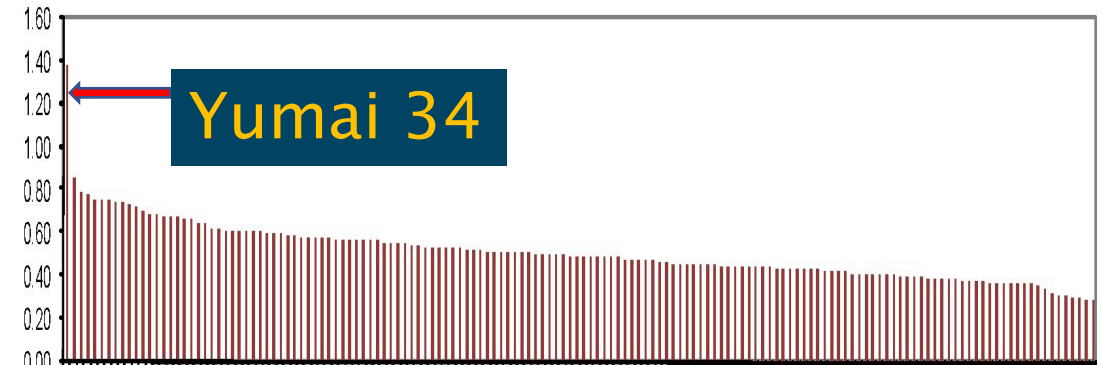


15-Years of UK and 3 Years of US Plant Breeding Research: Doable Without Yield Loss, At Low Cost

Total AX: 1.4-2.8%



Soluble AX: 0.3-1.4%



1B QTL: 16-24% of variation

6B QTL: 12% of variation

- High heritability: 60-70%
- Amenable to selection
- No long-term yield loss or agronomic impact identified
- Available **royalty free**

Is this enough?

A Step in the Right Direction for Billions of People



- Everyone who eats wheat gets more fiber (Up to 2.5 g/ day, average)
- We expect chronic disease will retreat:
Nutrition Model*:
 - > Cardiovascular Disease 1-3% ▼ ()
 - > Diabetes type II 3-4.5% ▼ ()
- \$120 in benefit for each \$1 in cost**
- Even a little high-fiber wheat helps– and a lot helps a LOT

US FIBRE AND BENEFITS	YEAR 1	7	11	14	17	21	25	29	TOTAL*
Healthcare Cost Savings (\$MM)	255	3,402	5,104	6,805	8,506	10,207	11,909	11,909	58,097
US Lives Saved (#)	387	5,158	7,737	10,316	12,894	11,032	12,871	12,871	73,265
% of US Crop High-Fiber (50% delivered to US)	1.5%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	70%	

*Actual reduction will depend on populations' actual diets

** 13-year investment and farmers' incentives vs healthcare cost savings and value of lives saved.

Overview

Why a New Paradigm? Wheat Fiber for Rural Wealth and Health in Nebraska?

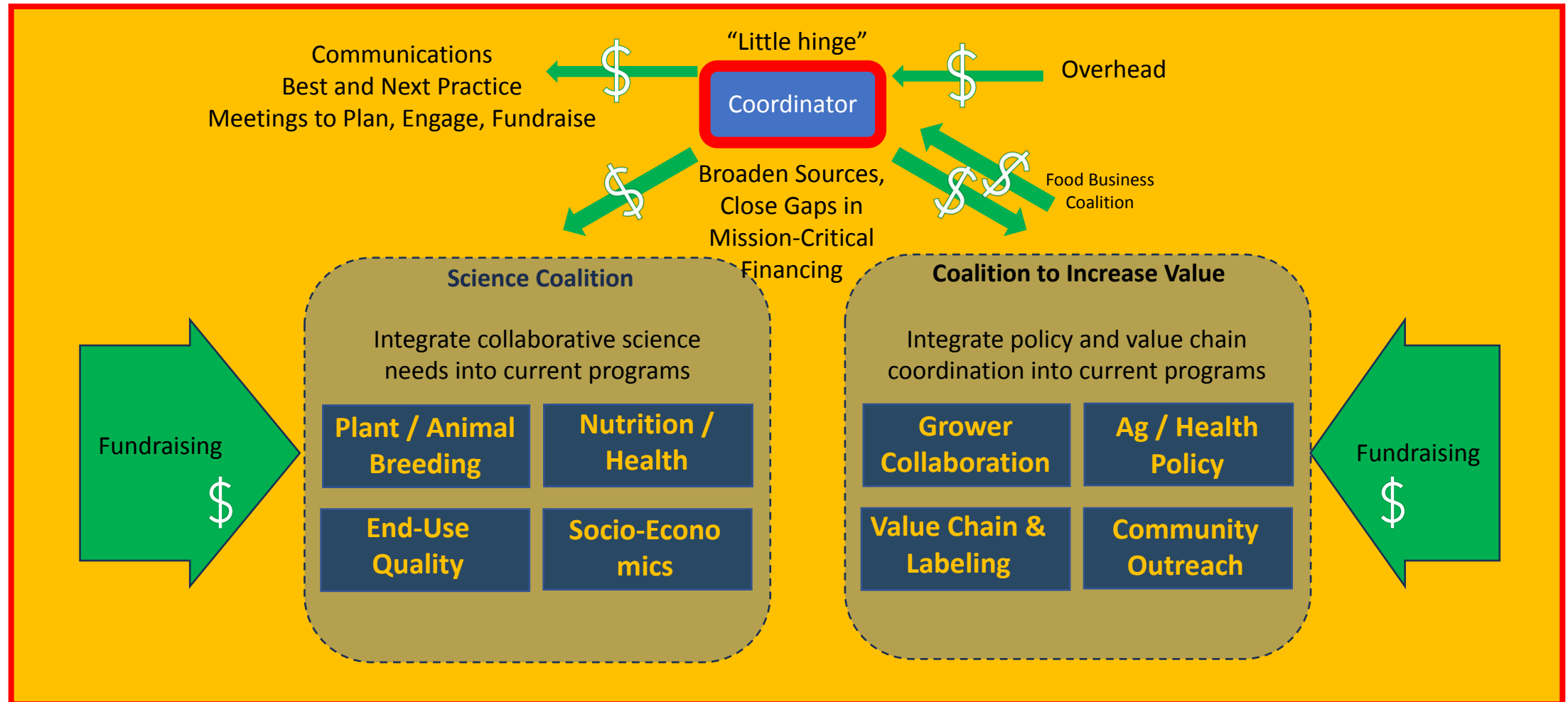
We aim to build alignment around a clear plan to enhance rural wealth and health by connecting agriculture and public health.

Why Nebraska?

- #1 ag economy
- Political leaders dedicated to agricultural interests and helping people live better lives
- University of Nebraska thought leadership, including:
 - Nebraska Food for Health Center at the University of Nebraska linking agriculture and food production to wellness and disease prevention
 - 10 UNL and UNMC faculty participating in the Coalition for Grain Fiber
 - Highly respected University of Nebraska Extension Human Sciences Program
- Nebraska Wheat's commitment to innovatively developing wheat markets

Coordinating Nutrient Research and Health Policy

How Roles and Funds Work



Public Health Strategy

A Paradigm Shift Learned from History



Food-for-Healthier Lives

Simple Fortifications Delivered Great 20th Century Advances

- Fluoridated water: cut cavities
- Fortified white flour: reduced birth defects
- Vitamin D dairy: nearly eradicated rickets

While gaps between real world diets and established Guidelines are large, we recognize and respect that culture drives distinct food desires.

Our Attractive Choices

Modest nutrition increases in common foods eaten by virtually everyone several times a day. Easier to implement than might be expected.

Top 3 Foods' Diet Share

Global 66% **US 33%**

- Celebrate culture and individual tastes without relying on consumer behavior change.
- Enhance nutrients in intact foods
- Non-GMO wheat
- Embrace environmental values

Financial incentives to be generated where needed, aligned with current disease prevention and ag policy

A Low-Cost, Doable Approach To Enhance Health



PLANT BREEDING



**Success Likelihood:
85% (as of Feb)**

END USE QUALITY



- 15-years of UK + 3 Years US science
- Plant breeding approach without yield loss at low cost—based on natural selection (non-GMO)
- Can be integrated in any region and class of wheat
- Our approach features rapid varietal selection of existing commercial varieties and elite nursery varieties (5 years), with follow-on improvements
- Trait is available royalty free, to any interested party

- Building on decades of AX wheat research
- HARD WHEAT: Impacts within normal variation
 - ✓ Acceptable baked goods (organoleptics US, UK)
 - ✓ Most quality impacts positive (retains moisture)
 - ✓ Negative can be largely eliminated by common endo-xylanase enzymes
- SOFT WHEAT: Possibly doughy applications only
- Ongoing science adds comfort, ensures ability to successfully adjust production and supply chain

PUBLIC HEALTH

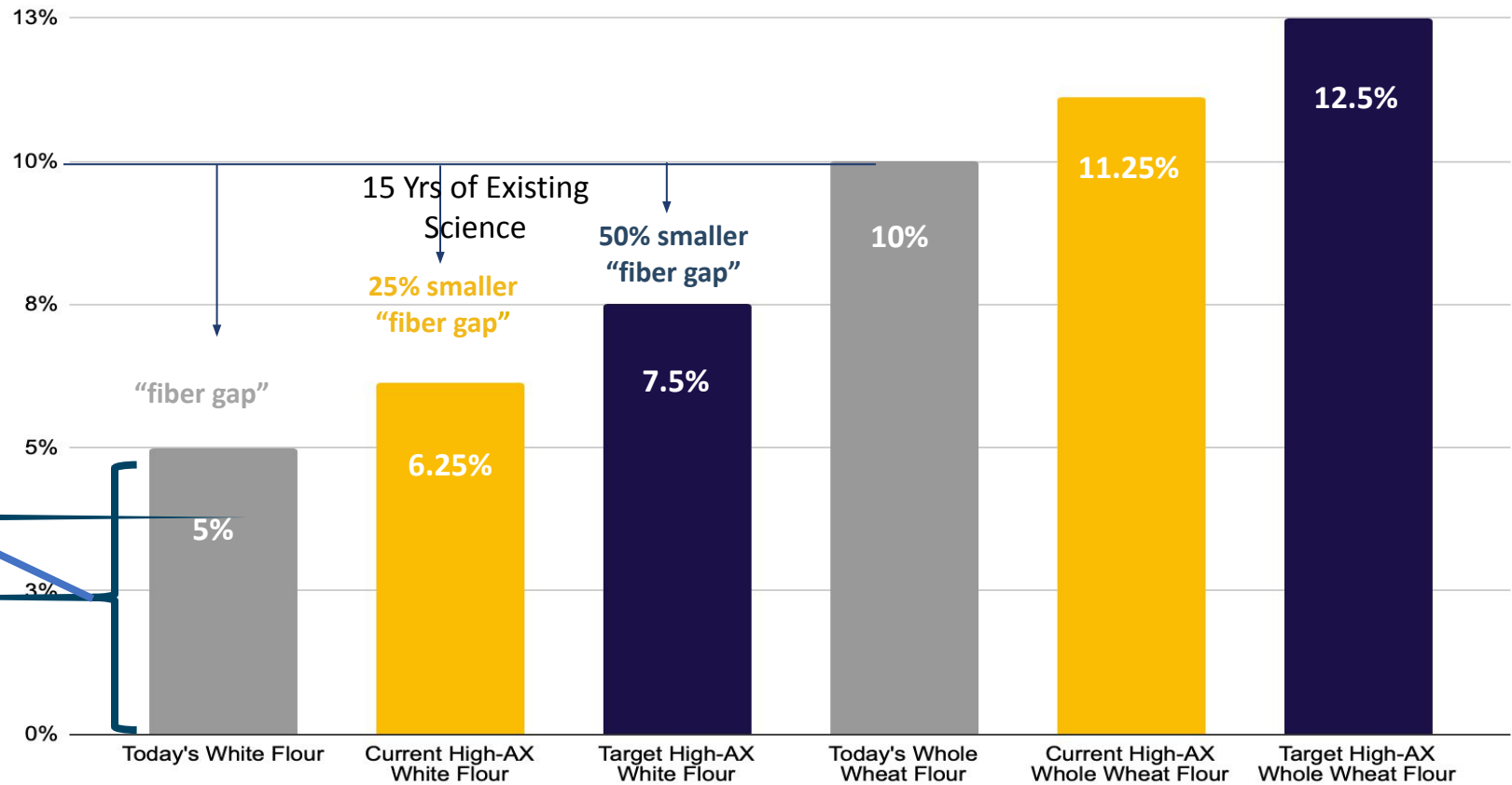
- Under-consumed nutrient of concern (US Dietary Guidelines, NASEM guidance), Global need
- Modest increase, several times a day, billions of people
- No major side effects

Nature's Opportunity

To Increase Wheat Fiber in White Flour and Whole Grain

Wheat Flour Fiber, High Arabinoxylan Project (Indicative)

Arabinoxylan (AX)	1.4-2.8%
Beta Glucan	0.25-0.75%
Total Cell Wall Polysaccharides	2-3%
+ Fructans	1.5%
Arabinogalactin Peptide	up to 0.4%
Total Fiber	4.3%
+ Resistant starch	0.7%
Total Bread Fiber	5%



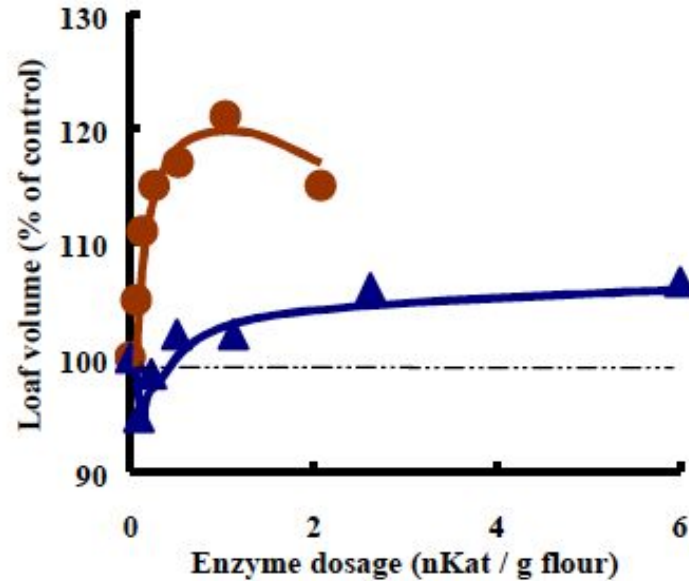
Based on [Shewry, P. and Hey \(2015\), The contribution of wheat to human diet and health.](#)

Endoxylanase Enzymes

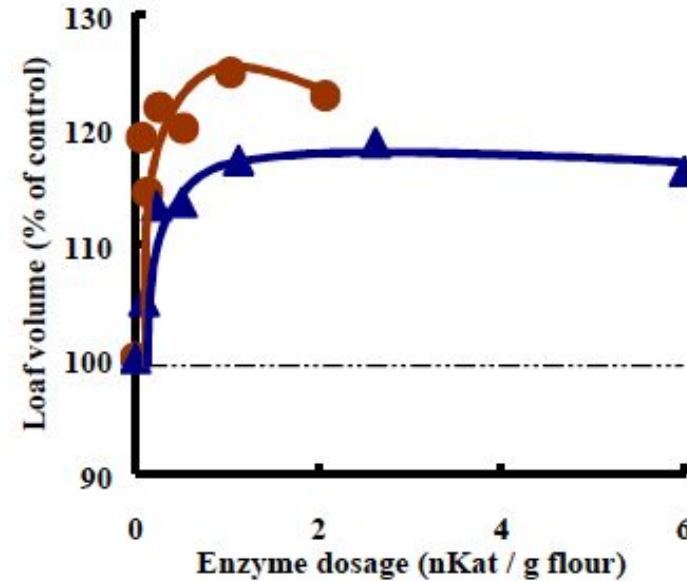
Eliminates negative doughy application impacts



COALITION FOR
GRAIN FIBER



(A)



(B)

Figure VI-1: Specific loaf volume as a function of (—●—) XBS and (—▲—) XAA dosage for (A) flour A and (B) flour B.

Courtin, C. 2000

Low-Risk Plant Breeding and End Use Qu

85% Probability of Technical Success



9 Plant Breeders and 9 EUQ Specialist Anonymized Survey During Feb '24 Workshop

Plant Breeding

Fiber Increase % in White Flour (Median Response)

25% Increase	50% Increase
85%	60%

"If 25% commercial lines already exist, then making them in the US is almost guaranteed."
10% of commercial UK varieties with increased-fiber genes



Genes also present in commercial varieties in China, France



"I'm slightly more confident after our discussions today that we have the tools and germplasm to develop high quality 50% fiber increase, especially if we look beyond AX."

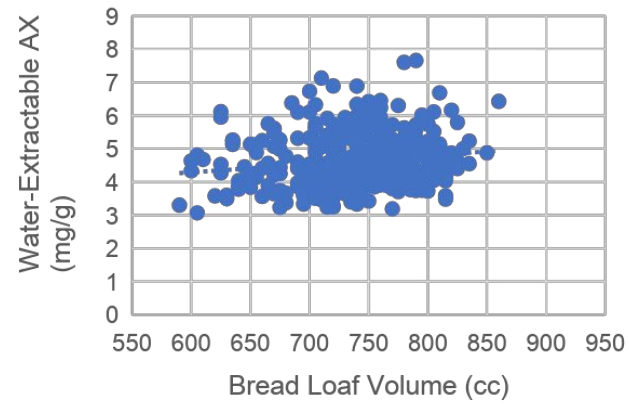
End-Use Quality

Fiber Increase % in White Flour (Median Response)

25% Increase	50% Increase
95%+	95%+

"25% increase is very close to higher AX content observed currently and would not require too much changes."
AX is NOT the only thing impacting moisture, e.g.,:

TOT-AX vs Loaf Volume



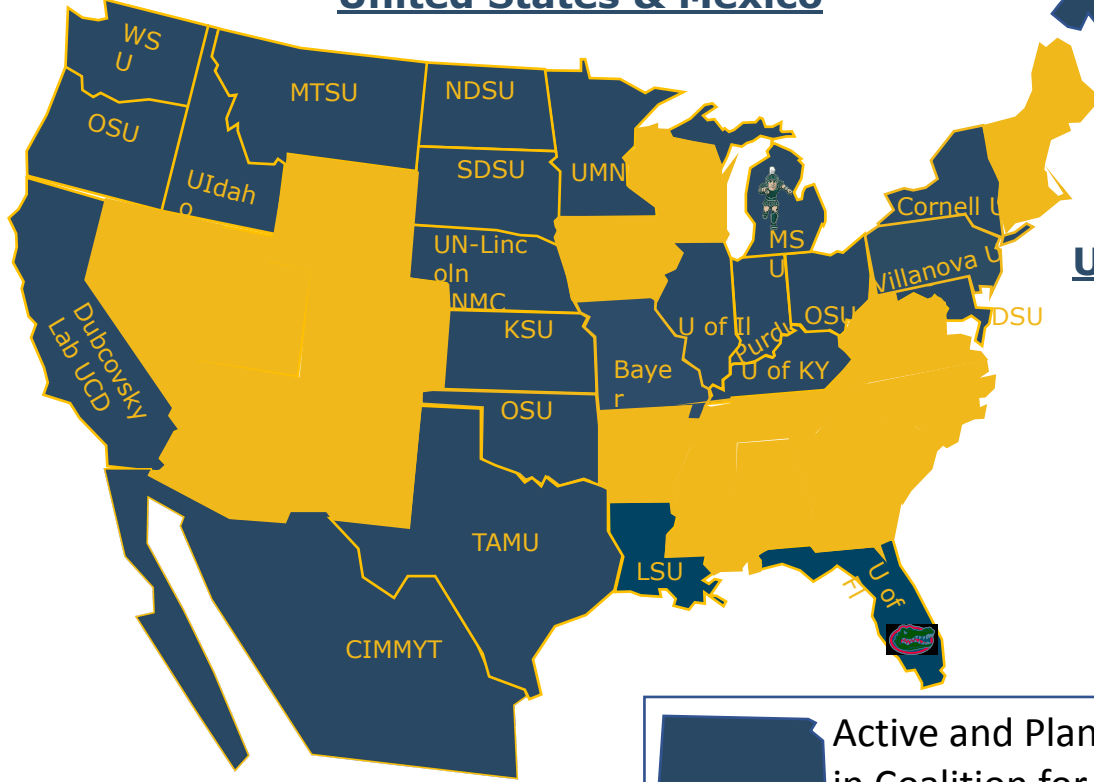
"More work is needed on formulation and process adaptations. Science and industry can achieve this with adequate funding support." "We have the technology toolbox to make a decent bread."

World-Class, Multinational Team Dedicated to Transforming Food



Over \$3,000,000 in volunteered time

United States & Mexico



United Kingdom Belgium



Active and Planned Active in Coalition for Grain Fiber

Over 50 Laboratory Leaders

25 States and 5 Nations

27 Full Professors

6 Distinguished Professors

1 Winner of the Wolf World Award for Agricultural Science



Research endorsed by Nobel Peace Laureate



Over 15 Leading Professionals from

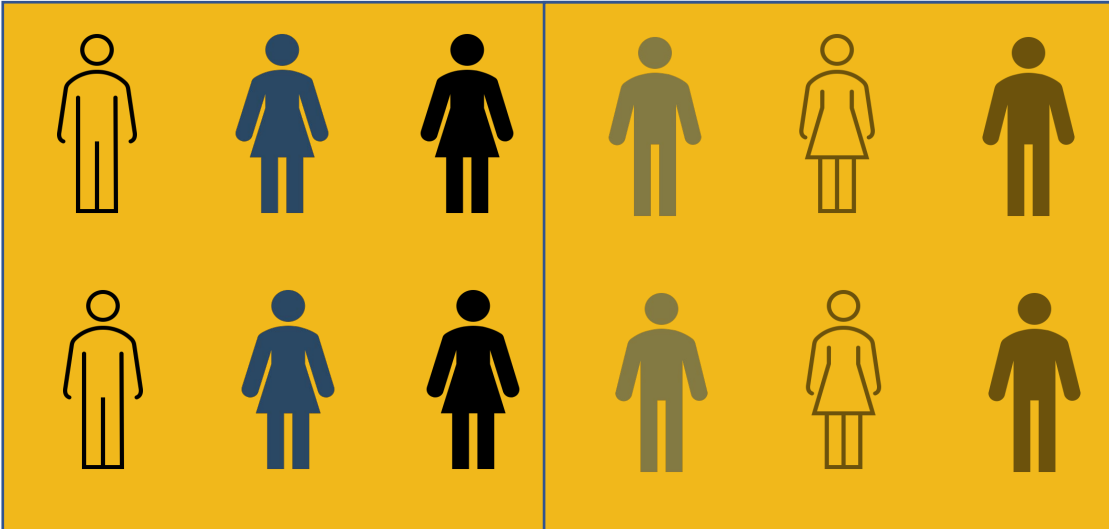


National and Global Overwhelming Challenges

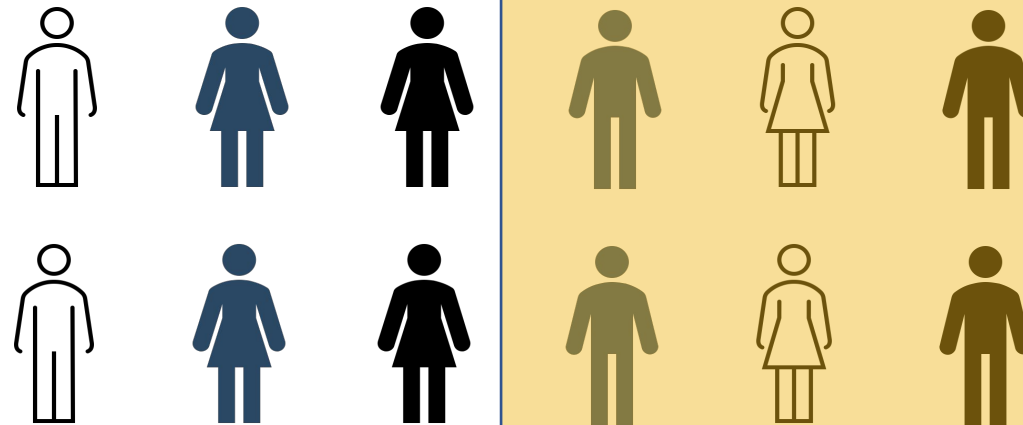
Indicative US Population

Cardiovascular
Disease (CVD)

1 of every 2 people



CVD +
Diabetes



Diabetic or
Pre-Diabetic

1 of every 2
People

Nebraska in Focus

Chronic Disease Costs Billions and Kills Millions



Go-to-Market Approach

What Drives High-Fiber Wheat Demand?



Policy

Health Incentive

Government pays for certified increased-fiber wheat seed

Key support:

- Farmers + value chain support
- Urban + rural communities devastated by chronic disease

Value Chain Commitments

• **Dieticians, other scientists** No discounts increased-fiber grain

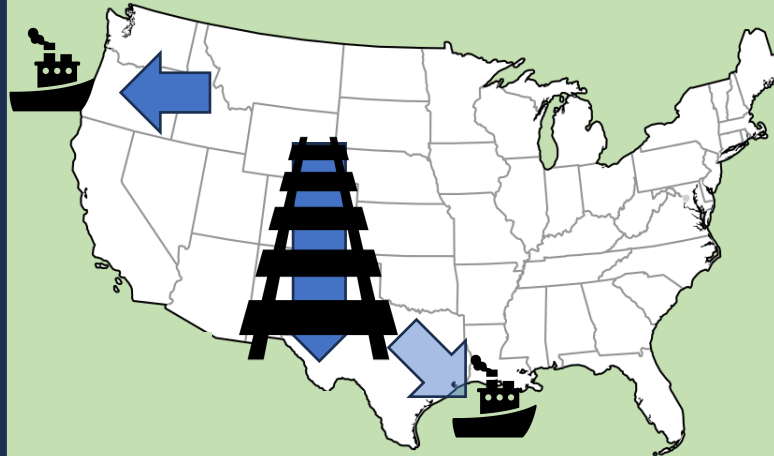
Follow-on Efforts

Support and scale from follow on opportunities in other commodities.

Global Value

Mexico

- Mexican food requirements
- Grupo Bimbo announced fiber targets for 2030.



Others

Appear open to business case.

More Opportunities

Traditional Healthy Products

Options to deliver shareholder value with fiber standards and increased-fiber baked goods.

Resilience

Revise ecosystem services targets to include harvested, increased-fiber wheat

Aligned Wheat Breeding

Durum wheat heavy metals model

Go-to-Market Approach

What Drives High-Fiber Wheat Demand



Health Incentive

Government pays for certified increased-fiber wheat seed (X% of cost)

Key support:

- Farmers
- Impacted urban and rural communities devastated by chronic disease
- Nutritionists, dieticians, other scientists
- Others

Food Commitments

Baking industry welcomes increased-fiber grain at commodity prices; no fiber discount.

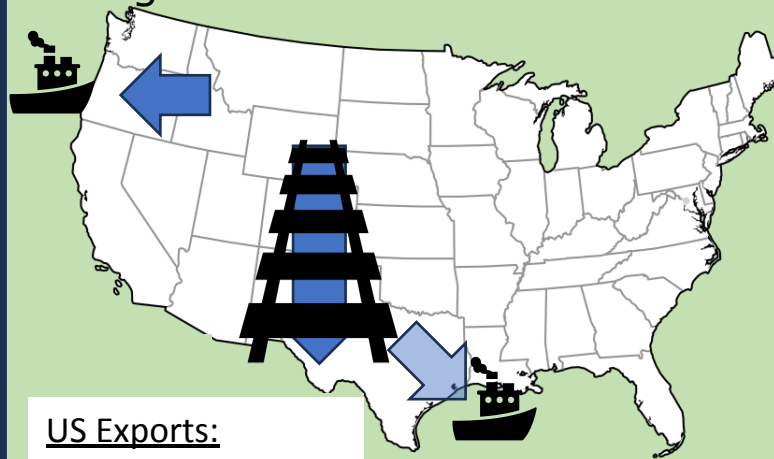
Follow-on Efforts

Further increased-nutrient efforts in wheat, other foods expands support and scale.

International Support

Mexican government actively supports healthier foods.

Grupo Bimbo announced minimum dietary fiber content targets for 2025 and 2030.



US Exports:

Mexico	18%
Japan, Korea,	25%
Philippines, Taiwan	
China	6%
Nigeria	3%
Colombia	2%
Others	46%

Japan has existing 'for gut health arabinoxylan fiber food'

Resilience

Revise ecosystem services targets to include harvested increased-fiber wheat in government supported rotational cropping systems to foster soil health, thus coupling efforts to reduce chronic disease with improving soil health, reducing soil erosion, chemical and moisture runoff, and increasing biodiversity.

Baking Opportunities

Specific businesses find value in committing to increase fiber standards for their baked goods, and/or higher-fiber product opportunities, accelerating the pull.

Aligned Wheat Breeding

Wheat breeders may find grant value in increased fiber varieties and committing to increase average fiber level. (Durum wheat heavy metals model)

Low-Risk Arabinoxylan Science

85% Probability of Technical Success

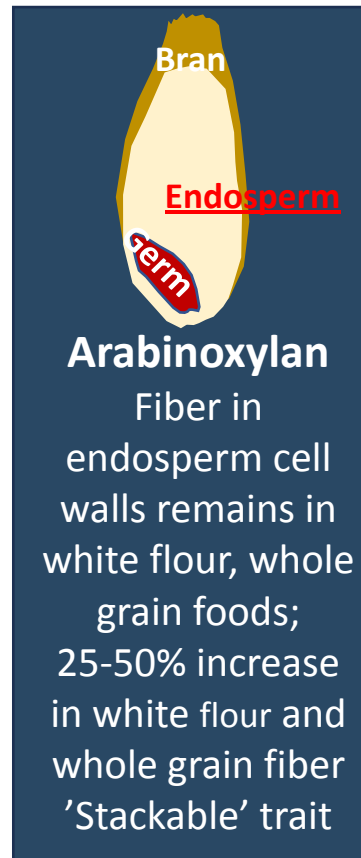


Plant Breeding

Fiber Increase % in White Flour (Median Response)

25% Increase	50% Increase
85%	60%

- Non-GMO natural variation (no approvals)
- 2 QTLs in UK, France, China bread wheat varieties
- High heritability (60-70%)
- No long-term yield loss or other agronomic impact
- 5 + year development
- Can be integrated in any region's wheat
- Available royalty free, to any interested

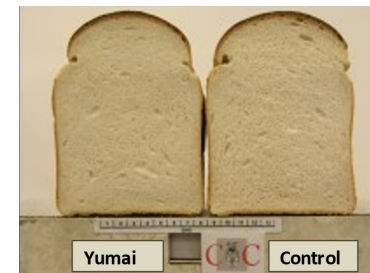


Increases under-consumed nutrient of concern
No major side effects

End-Use Quality

Fiber Increase % in White Flour (Median Response)

25% Increase	50% Increase
95%+	95%+



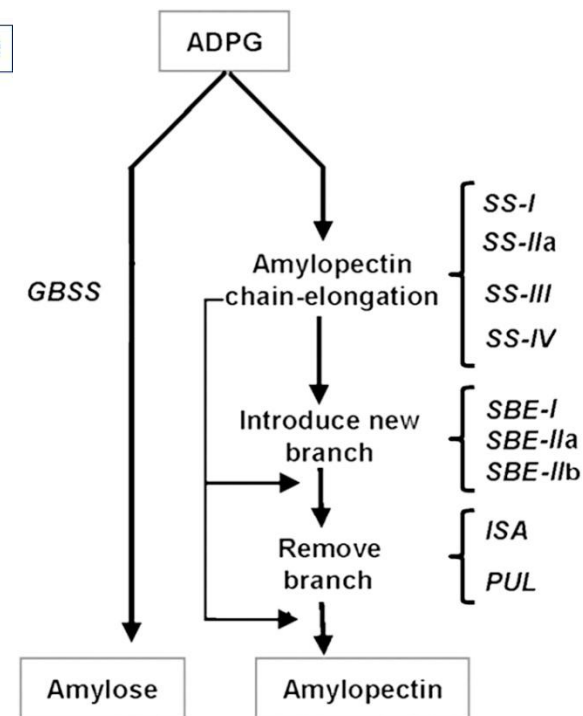
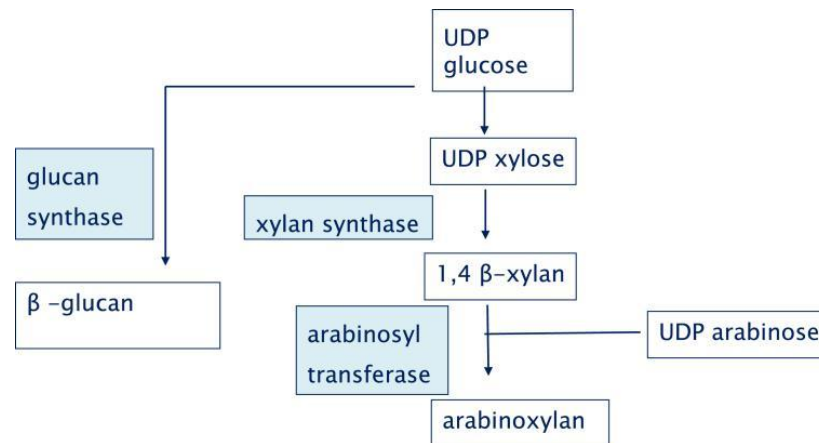
UK Bread Test

- HARD WHEAT: Acceptable bread for US, UK baking:
 - ✓ Less impact than shift old to new crop
 - ✓ Aim for NOT identity preserved
- SOFT WHEAT: Potentially for doughy applications only

Future Fiber Research



- Fiber in wheat
 - Cell Wall
 - Cellulose
 - **Arabinoxylan**
 - **Beta-glucan**
 - Lignin
 - Glucomannan
 - Fructan (FODMAPS)
 - **Resistant Starch**
- November 7th Discussion on Next Options: Wheat; Rice; Corn; Animal-Based Foods



End-Use Quality (EUQ)

Multiple, Ongoing Activities



**Arabinoxylan
Measurement**



**Processing
Impact on
Arabinoxylan
(TDF)**



**Agronomic,
End-Use Quality
Impact on hard,
soft-wheat
foods**



**Processing with
different levels
of xylanases**

Activity underway includes:

- NIR calibration for ground meal and flour
- Measuring TDF in bread
- Regional AX Trials (West, East, South, North): uniformity and performance
- Evaluate processing quality with endogenous and exogenous xylanases

Funding:

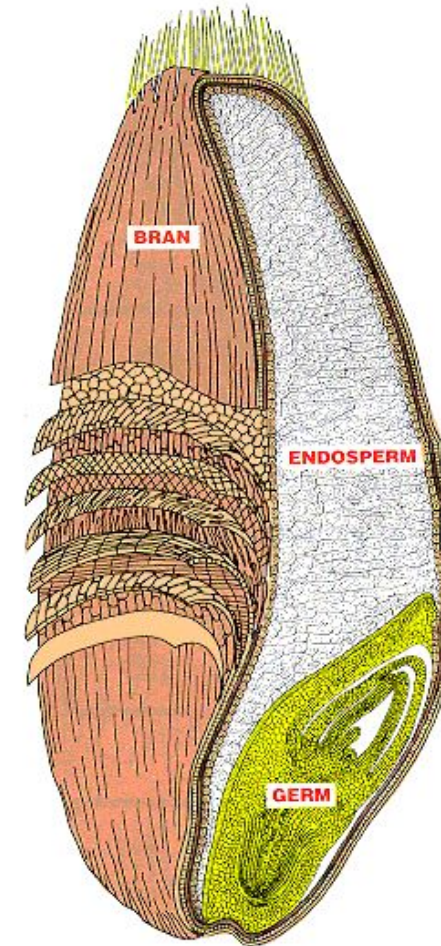
- Three-year budget \$140-230K / year
- USDA NIFA grant submitted Oct 10
- USDA AFRI Novel Foods Grant submitted Oct 1
- Private organization interested in funding sensory test

 We are answering a limited– but important– set of open EUQ questions

Fiber Amounts



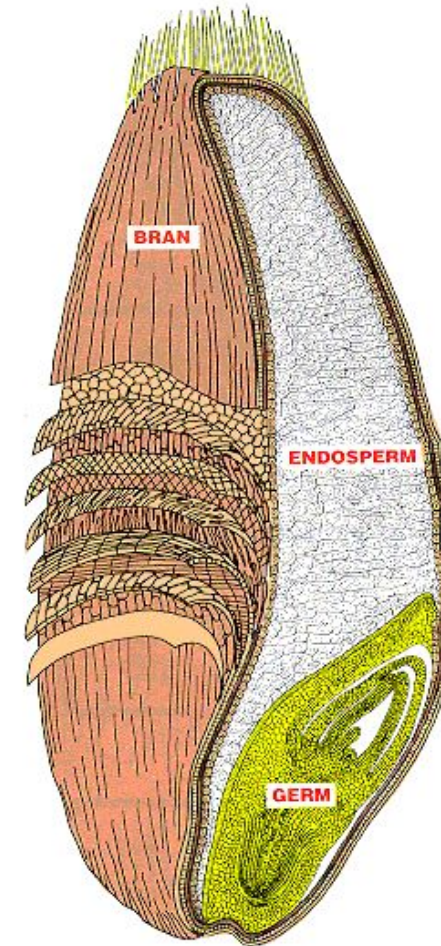
Wheat Fiber	White Flour	Whole Wheat Flour
Arabinoxylan	1.2%	5.4%
	0.8%	1.8%
Cellulose	-	1.4%
Glucomannan	0.2%	0.2%
Lignin	-	0.4%
Fructan	0.8%	2.4%
Resistant Starch (high amylose)		
Total Fiber	3.0	11.6



Fiber Amounts

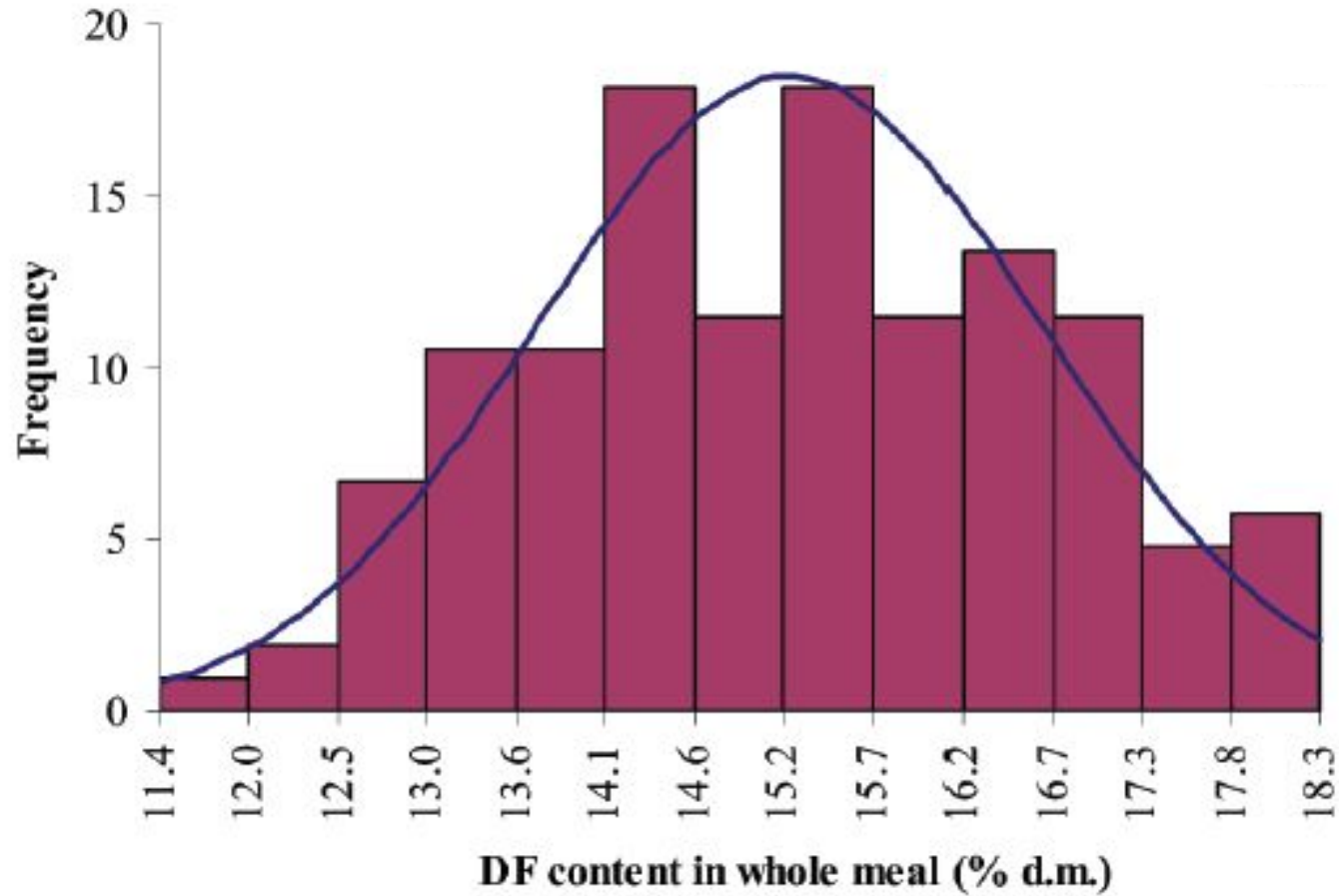


Wheat Fiber	White Flour	Whole Wheat Flour
Arabinoxylan	1.2%	5.4%
	0.8%	1.8%
Cellulose	-	1.4%
Glucomannan	0.2%	0.2%
Lignin	-	0.4%
Fructan	0.8%	2.4%
Resistant Starch (high amylose)	0 to >25%	0 to >25%
Total Fiber	3.0 to >25%	11.6 to >25%



Healthgrain Study

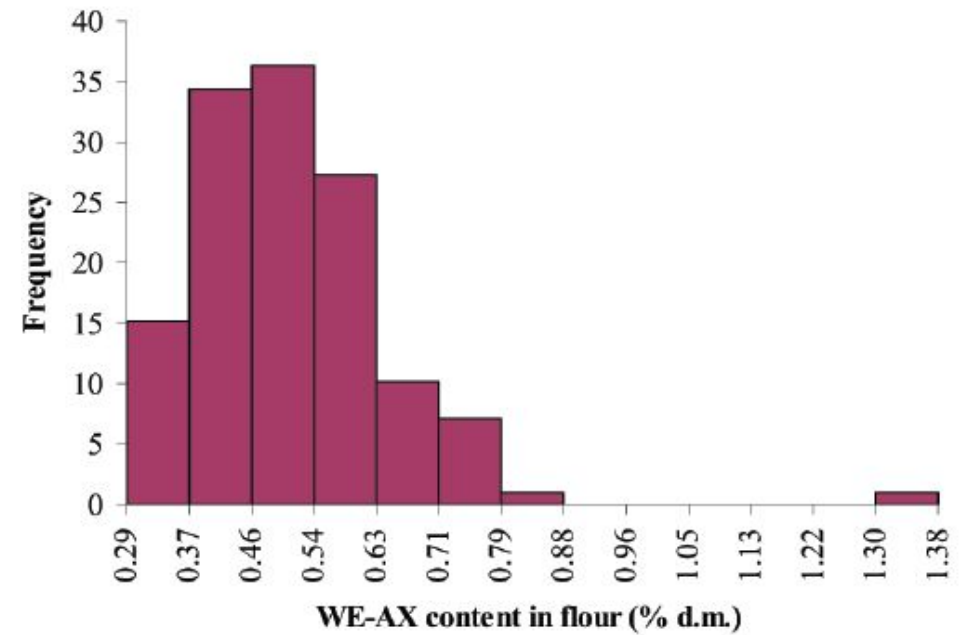
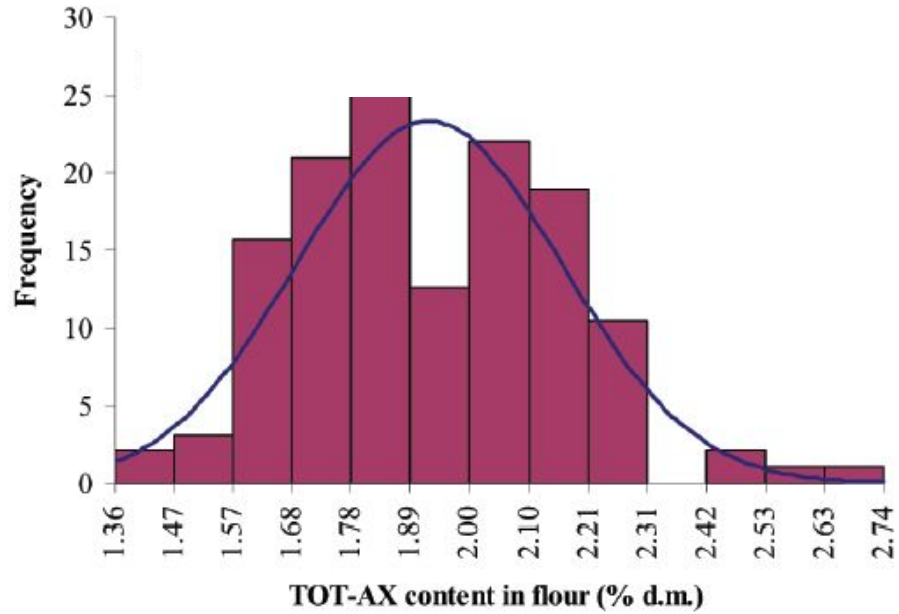
Whole Wheat Fiber



Gebruers, K. et al. 2008

Healthgrain Study

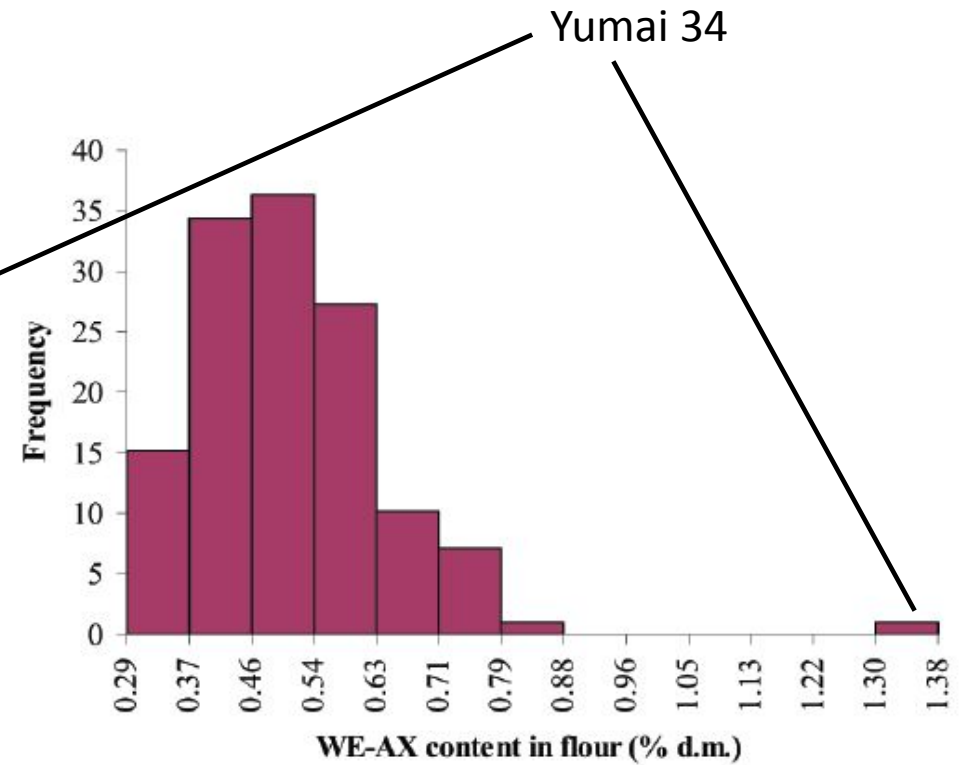
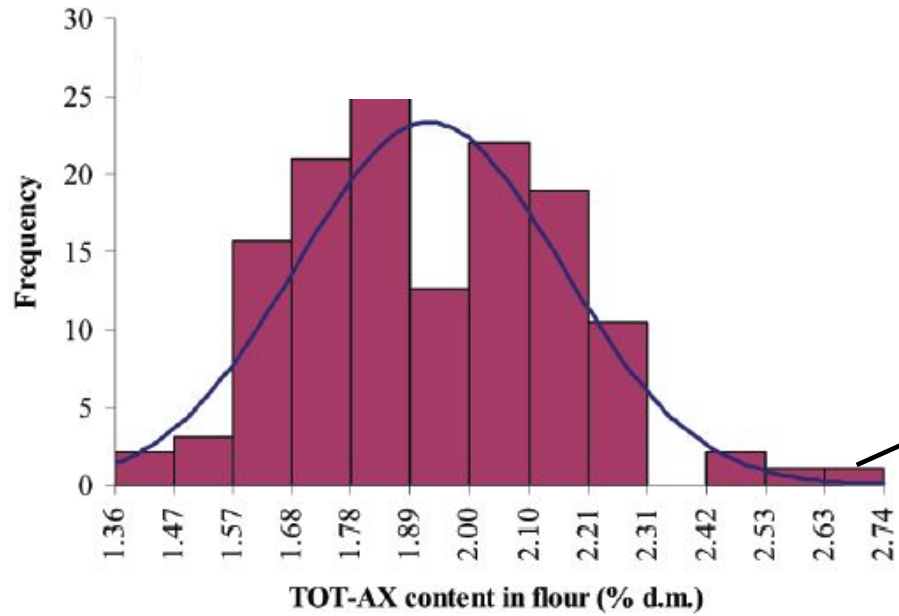
Arabinoxylan



Gebruers, K. et al. 2008

Healthgrain Study

Arabinoxylan



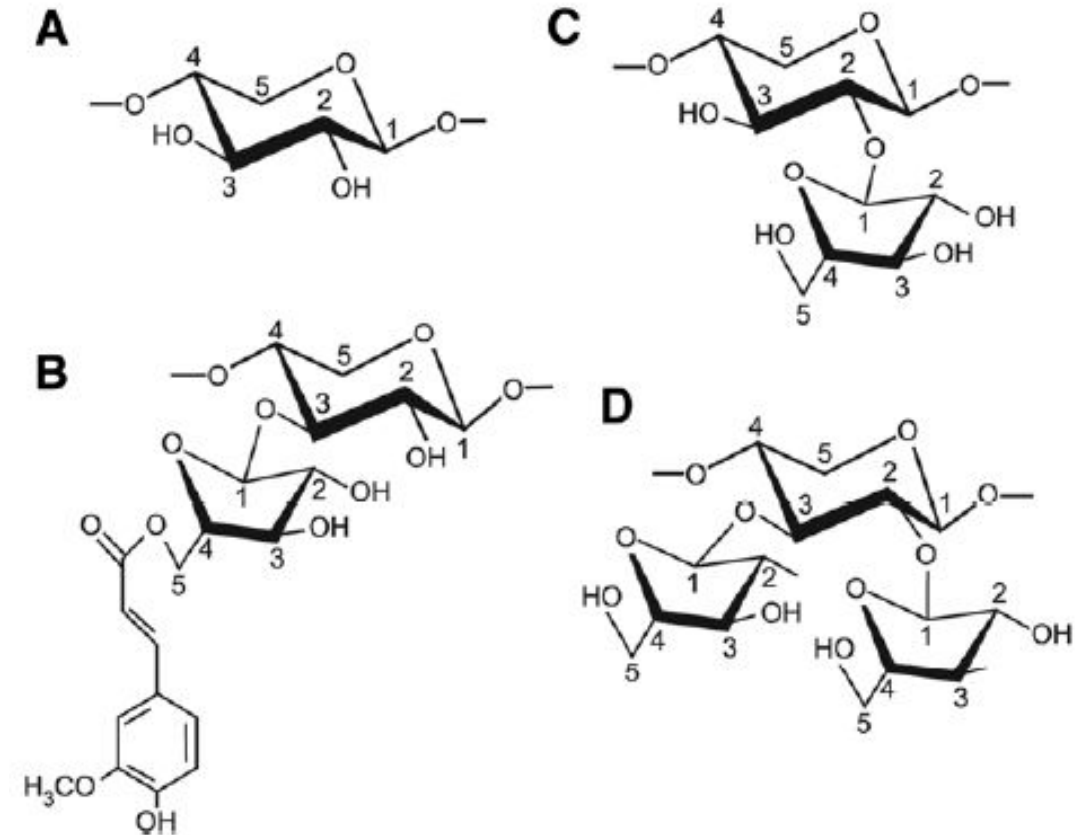
Gebruers, K. et al. 2008

Structure of Arabinoxylan

Arabinoxylan



- β 1-4 linked D-xylose units as the backbone (A)
 - Monomeric α -L-arabinose units linked at the 2 and/or 3 carbon position. (C & D)
 - Ferulic acid can be bound to arabinose at the 5 carbon position (B)



Structure of Arabinoxylan

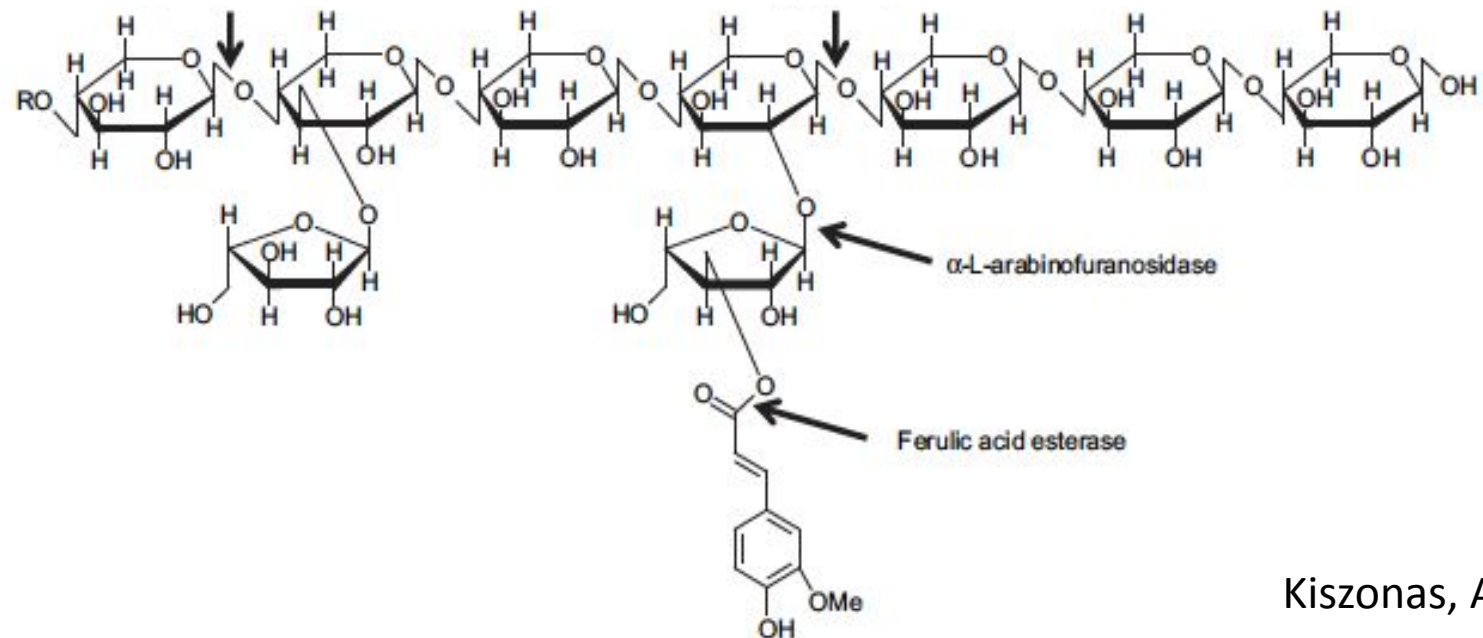
Arabinoxylan



Degree of substitution and pattern of substitution determines water solubility

Water Unextractable Arabinoxylans (WUAX)

Water Extractable Arabinoxylans (WEAX)

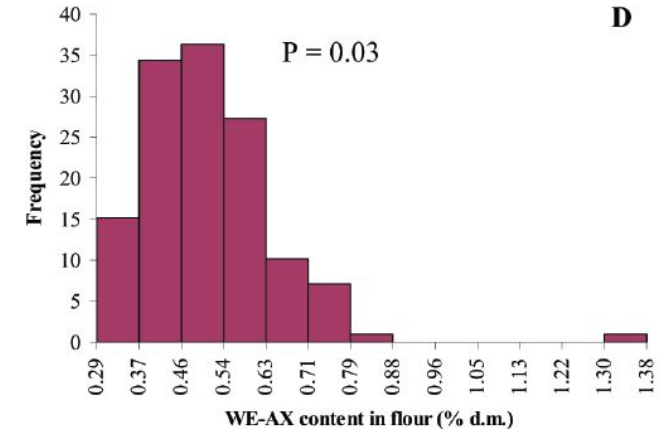


Sources of Variation

Arabinoxylan



D



- High levels of heritability
 - Total arabinoxylans
 - Water extractable arabinoxylans
- Environment also has an influence on arabinoxylan content
- In general, Genetics have a greater impact on WEAX and Environment has a greater impact on WUAX and TAX



Coordinating Science and Value

Structured Effort

“Little Hinge”

Communications
Best and Next Practice
Meetings to Plan, Engage, Fundraise



Overhead

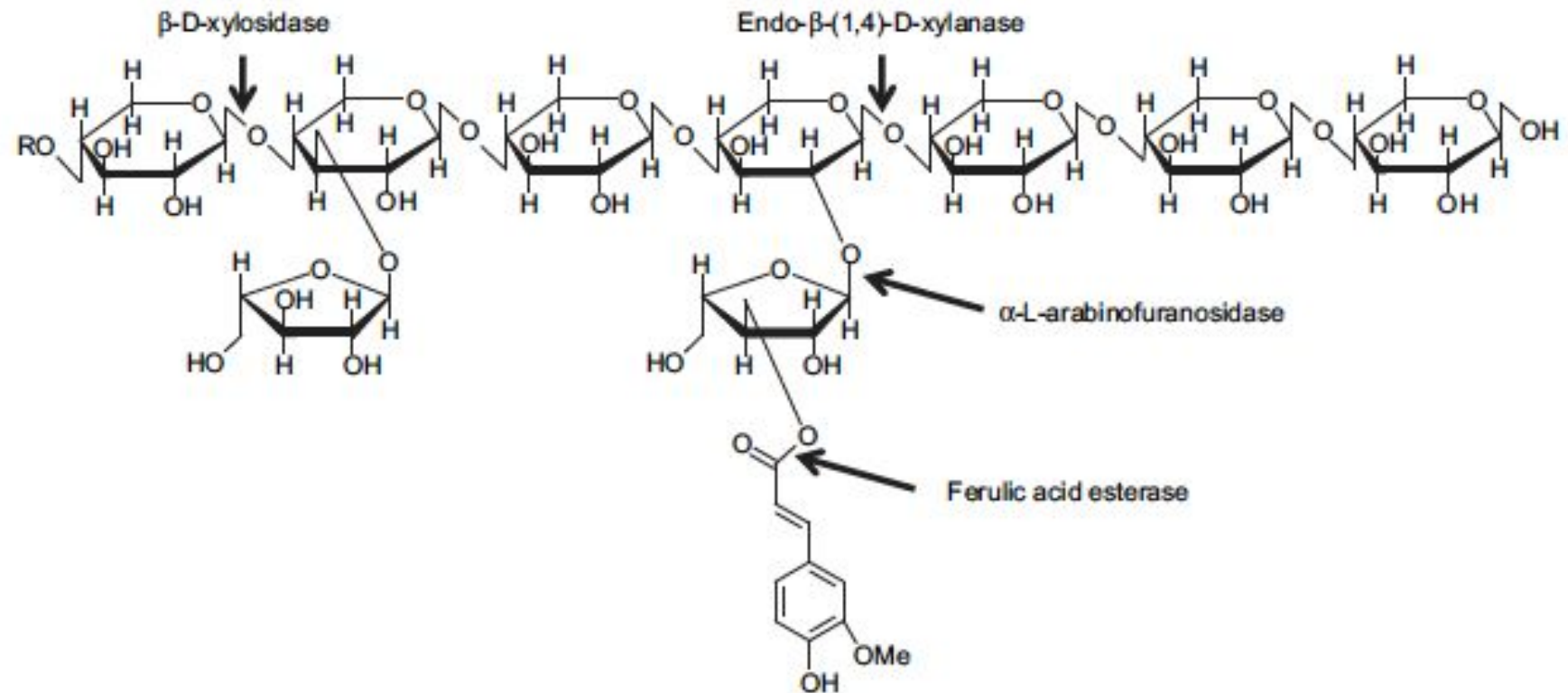
Coordinator & Connector
Broaden Sources,
Close Gaps in Mission-Critical Financing

Food Business Coalition



Impact of Enzymes on Quality

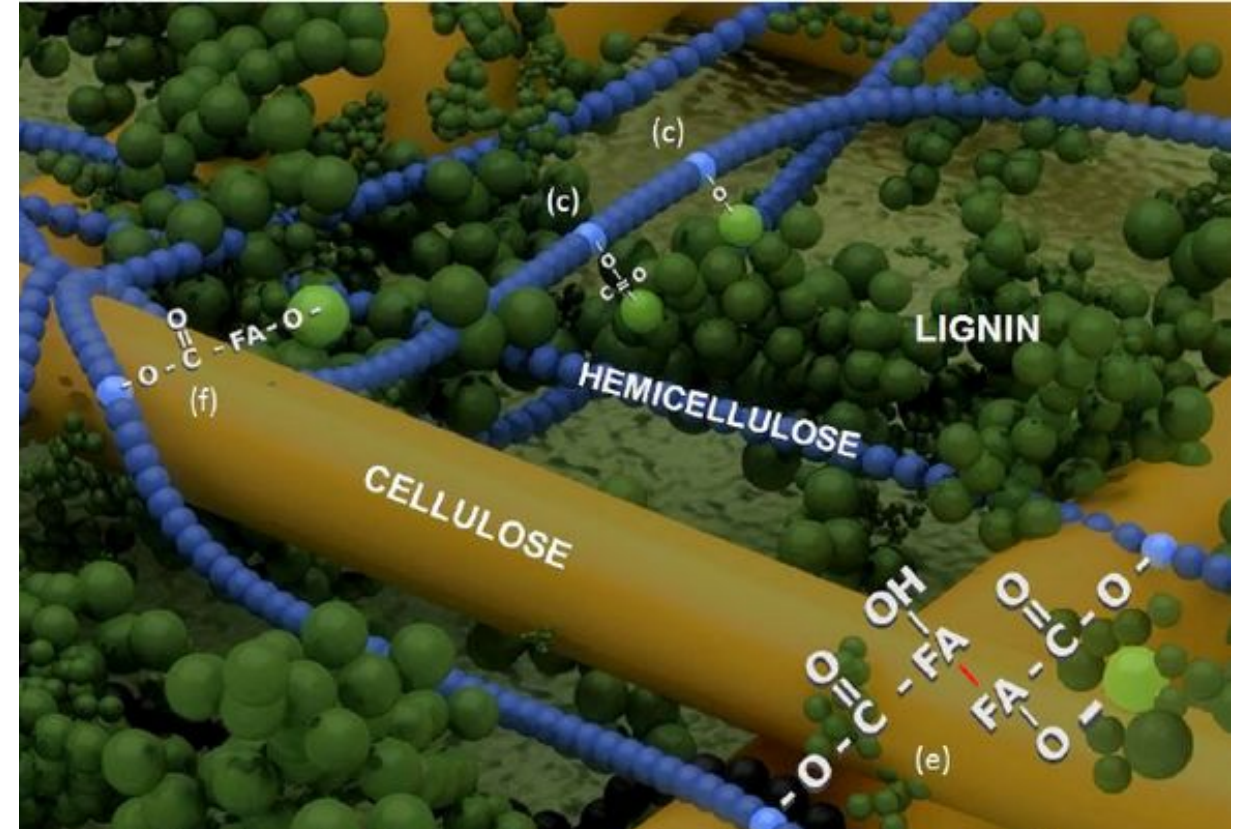
Arabinoxylan



Fiber in Wheat



- Fiber in wheat
 - Cell Wall
 - Cellulose
 - Arabinoxylan
 - Beta-glucan
 - Lignin
 - Glucomannan
 - Fructan (FODMAPS)
 - Resistant Starch



A Key Challenge to US and the World

Chronic Disease Kills Millions, Costs Billions



Diabetes kills every 5 seconds.

Cardiovascular disease, every 2 seconds.



Cost of chronic disease in US:
\$700 billion per year

50x the value of the annual US wheat crop, which is
20% of global and food consumption
Largest source of US dietary fiber intake (>33%)