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**For Immediate Release**

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## **76% of Wheat Growers Approve Biotech Petition**

*From Commodity Classic* – More than three-quarters of wheat growers responding to a recent National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) survey approved a petition supporting the commercialization of biotechnology in wheat.

The survey was commissioned by NAWG as a project of the NAWG Foundation to measure and document the level of support of biotech trait commercialization among wheat growers.

Anecdotal evidence has long suggested many wheat producers would like biotech traits in their arsenal, and national wheat organizations support biotech commercialization. However, private technology providers need to be assured of ground-level support for their efforts before undertaking the decade-long, multimillion-dollar path toward commercialization of a trait.

“Until now, there has only been speculation about the breadth of grower support for biotechnology in wheat,” said NAWG CEO Daren Coppock. “This petition was designed to gather those answers from across our wheat producing areas, and now we have an objective and clear answer.”

To date, the survey has enjoyed a 32 percent response rate, with approval rates similar across states and farm sizes. The survey was mailed in January and February to about 21,000 producers with more than 500 acres of wheat and 1,000 acres in total production.

More information about the petition and survey is available online at [www.wheatworld.org/biotech](http://www.wheatworld.org/biotech). Items posted there include the full petition language, an expanded Q and A about the effort and numerical break-outs of results by state and farm size.

NAWG leaders have scheduled a media availability on the biotech survey for Thursday from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. local time at the Wheat Industry Booth (#806) at the Commodity Classic trade show. Additional media inquiries may be directed toward Melissa George Kessler at [mkessler@wheatworld.org](mailto:mkessler@wheatworld.org)

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