

AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

for the Virginia Small Grains Board

Fiscal Year 2023 - 2024

Date Due: November 1, 2024

- I. Introduction**
- II. Budget and Finances**
- III. Projects and Funding**
- IV. Year End Funding Level**
- V. Board Meetings and Attendance**

The Virginia Small Grains Board FY 2023 – 2024

I. Introduction

Created by the Virginia General Assembly in 1991 as part of Virginia's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Small Grains Board promotes the interests of wheat, barley, oats and rye growers in the Commonwealth through research, education and marketing.

The Board consists of 11 members with voting privileges and are all appointed by Virginia's governor for three-year terms and have no term limits. The membership consists of seven small grains producers from different regions around the state, a seedsman, a processor, a country buyer, and an exporter. The regions and the definitions for the agribusiness positions are defined in the Virginia Corn Board legislation.

The purpose of the Board is to manage the Small Grains Fund which consists of the checkoff dollars collected from the one-half of one percent of the net market price per bushel for small grains produced in Virginia and sold to a first handler. The Board uses these funds to contract with government agencies and the private sector to conduct programs for market development, promotion, publicity, education, and research. The programs are to enhance the economical production of and to increase the sale and use of small grains.

The Board holds one meeting each year in July. This meeting is the Board's annual funding meeting. The Board currently manages up to \$400,000.00.

Revenue collected in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, totaled \$290,629.10 compared to \$347,576.32 collected in 2023. Only 150,000 acres of wheat were planted for harvest in 2024 which is the fewest acres planted since at least 2012. Wheat prices also fell over two bushels/acre in 2023 (\$6.4 bu/A) from 2022 (\$8.4 bu/A). The average price received for wheat in Virginia on July 11, 2024, still shows falling numbers at \$5.2 bu/A.

The wheat crop in Virginia during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, totaled 85,000 acres harvested from the 150,000 acres planted. Yield per acre was 66 bushels, which is down from 68 bushels the previous year. The value of the wheat crop was estimated at \$67,392,000 down from \$82,110,000 a year ago and up from \$56,843,000 two years ago. The average price per bushel for the season was \$6.40, which was \$1.90 lower than the prior year.

In 2023, the barley crop averaged 86 bushels per acre on 6,000 harvested acres. It is estimated that 24,000 acres were planted in 2024 and 6000 acres of that were harvested (updated figures will be provided in September of 2024). Yields in 2023 were 86 bushels per acre on 7,000 harvested acres. Production totaled 498,000 bushels with a value of \$2,092,000. The value of the crop for in 2023 was \$3,010,000 and \$3,25,000 in 2022.

The Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service does not provide data for the rye and oats crops; therefore, the Virginia Small Grains Board cannot include any rye or oats statistics in this annual report.

II. Budget and Finances

A. Annual Budget	\$ 400,000.00
See Financial Analysis	

B. Revenues	\$290,629.10
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C. Expenditures	\$241,462.35
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1. Administration

a. Travel	\$ 685.60
b. Computer Equipment	-
c. Agency Service Charge	-
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Total Administrative Expenditures	\$ 685.60
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2. Dedicated Funding

a. Market Development	\$ 15,000.00
b. Promotion and Education	3,000.00
c. Research	228,146.00
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Total Dedicated Funding Expenditures	\$ 246,146.00
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III. Projects and Funding

	RESEARCH PROJECTS	FUNDING
1.	Small Grains Extension Program, Variety Testing, and Market Development	\$ 29,253.00
2.	Development of Specialty Wheat Varieties with High Value End-Use Properties	\$ 20,000.00
3.	Soft Red Winter Wheat Cultivar Development	\$ 55,000.00
4.	Improvement and Development of Barley for Use in Feed, Malt, and Food	\$ 10,000.00
5.	Breeding, mapping, and genome-enabled selection for scab resistance in barley and wheat	\$ 25,000.00
6.	Digitization and automation for data-driven improvement of small grains for Virginia	\$ 9,991.00
7.	Small Grain Research Program Support	\$ 10,000.00
8.	Increasing accessibility to diagnostic support and evaluating FHB fungicide performance in on-farm trials and a two-spray program through flowering	\$ 13,002.00
9.	On-Farm Small Grain Test Plots in Eastern Virginia 2023-2024	\$ 4,000.00
10.	Virginia Wheat Tissue Culture Development	\$ 15,000.00
11.	Impact of Planting Date on Wheat Development, Freeze Susceptibility, and Yield	\$ 4,000.00
12.	FY2023 Mycotoxin Testing Services for Virginia Wheat and Barley	\$ 25,000.00
13.	Weed Management in Virginia Small Grains 2023	\$ 7,900.00
	Total	\$228,146.00

	PROMOTION AND EDUCATION PROJECTS	FUNDING
1.	Agriculture in the Classroom – Connecting Children to Agriculture	\$ 3,000.00
	Total	\$3,000.00

	MARKET DEVELOPMENT PROJECT	FUNDING
1.	Empowering Small Grains: A VGPA and VSGB Partnership for Growth and Innovation	\$ 15,000.00
	Total	\$15,000.00

IV. Year End Funding Level

		<u>Actual Expenditures</u>
1. Cash Balance: June 30, 2023	\$	385,227.87
2. Assessment Receipts: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024	+	269,825.27
Interest from Other Sources	+	20,803.83
Miscellaneous Revenues	+	<u>-</u>
3. Total Balance and Receipts	=	675,856.97
4. Less Total Actual Expenditures	-	<u>(241,462.35)</u>
5. Cash Balance: June 30, 2024	= \$	434,394.62

V. Board Meetings and Attendance

July 18, 2023, Board Meeting

Board Member	Attended
Ellen M. Davis, <i>Chair</i>	Y
Floyd S. Childress, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Y
Michael Downing	Y
David K. Hula	Y
James H. Hundley, III	Y
George David Black	Y
Lynn P. Gayle	Y
Raymond G. Keating	Y
James N. Oliver	Y
Jay Jennings	Y
Candice Wilson	N