

Double Crop Talk 2021

AN ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT OF THE DELMARVA FARMER ... JUNE 15, 2021
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Delmarva wheat crop tour participants visited several fields from Milton, Del., to Sudlersville, Md., finding good-quality crops with little disease and pest damage.

Photos by Sean Clougherty

Quality high in Delmarva wheat crop tour

'There really wasn't much to see, which is good for the farmers'

By **SEAN CLOUGHERTY**
Managing Editor

At the outset of this year's Delmarva wheat crop tour, Lee Sproull, director of grain marketing for Mountaire Farms and one of the tour's organizers, told the small group about to visit a handful of fields in Delaware and Maryland that it was likely going to be a boring day.

"But that's good," he added quickly, noting timely weather during the later growth stages has kept pest and disease

damage way down.

In field after field from Milton, Del., to Sudlersville, Md., wheat quality was high, forcing tour participants to hunt for disease and insect damage.

"There really wasn't much to see, which is good for the farmers," said Deanna Irwin, grain merchandiser for The DeLong Company, who traveled from New York for the tour.

Irwin said wheat can be the most temperamental crop in the commodities market so having an idea of what the quality and yield will be from states she buys from can better inform her strategy.

The good quality in the fields be-



After much searching in good-quality wheat fields, a case of fusarium head blight surfaced to give tour participants a point of discussion, but in general, disease presence was nearly nonexistent.

See **WHEAT**
Page 5