

## **Multi-state Wheat Rusts Evaluation Nursery**

South Texas is at the forefront of Puccinia in the U.S. and leaf, stripe, and stem rusts can survive the winter in these climates. This can create a source for inoculum for Texas as well as other states in the Great Plains where hard red winter (HRW) and hard red spring (HRS) wheat classes are grown.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Research wheat breeding program uses a multi-state rust evaluation nursery at Castroville, TX as the primary rust screening location. The nursery that started in 2000 as a joint effort by Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Oklahoma State University, and Kansas State University, is now open to about anyone who wants to send material down for screening.

Each year we have lines from public and private wheat breeding programs from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, as well as other states. A number of U.S. breeders and pathologists gather at Castroville in mid-April of each year to look at this nursery and collect field reaction notes on their material.

Due to increasing land- lease costs, we are charging for participating in this nursery during the growing season as shown below:

### **Charges:**

**Plots:** \$ 5/plot for universities and for private sector participants

**Rows:** \$ 1/row for universities and for private sector participants