

## Two new wheat varieties introduced in PNW by Limagrain Cereal Seeds

*LCS Azimut and LCS Artdeco thrive in Washington, Oregon and Idaho*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WAITSBURG, Wash. -- Two new varieties of wheat from [Limagrain Cereal Seeds](#) are proving their worth in the Pacific Northwest (PNW), showing strong agronomic characteristics and very high yields in Washington, Oregon and Idaho.

The varieties, LCS Artdeco and LCS Azimut, have performed extremely well in PNW growing conditions, according to Jean-Bruno Beaufumé, who heads Limagrain Cereal Seed's Pacific Northwest breeding program.

LCS Azimut is a Hard Red Winter Wheat variety - aimed for the bread and general baking markets -- and LCS Artdeco is a Soft White Winter Wheat, targeted for export to the Far East, where it will be used in noodles, flatbreads and cookies.

"These varieties like our Pacific Northwest conditions," said Jean-Bruno. "LCS Artdeco does especially well in areas of southeast Washington and northeast Oregon, while LCS Azimut has a wider range because it can withstand a harder winter."

Both varieties have now proven themselves over three years, Jean-Bruno said, showing very high yields, especially in irrigated fields or areas with high rainfall. The two varieties also show good response to nitrogen management, he noted.

Growers and seed industry representatives attended a Field Day earlier this summer at LCS's wheat breeding test site at Waitsburg, Washington and were impressed with the results they saw, according to Jean-Bruno.

"They were very interested in our two new varieties," he said. "I think they were also very impressed by the size of the program and how quickly we've been able to develop it."

Jean-Bruno said the first certified seed of the new varieties is available to farmers in the region for planting this fall. Both varieties are best suited to the main planting season from mid-September to

early October, but LCS Artdeco is also well adapted to later sowing dates through October and into November.

The Pacific Northwest is the principal Soft White Winter Wheat region in the US. About 85 percent of SWWW production in the US is in the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho. In 2010, just over four million acres were planted, producing 275 million bushels of wheat.

Approximately 80 percent of the SWWW crop produced in the PNW is exported through the Portland Grain Terminal, primarily to Far Eastern countries that include Japan, China, Korea and the Philippines.

“At Limagrain Cereal Seeds, we are dedicated to developing the best wheat varieties farmers can buy,” said Frank Curtis, Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer for Limagrain Cereal Seeds. “LCS Azimut and LCS Artdeco are products PNW farmers will appreciate for the return on their investment.”

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*Group Limagrain was founded in France in 1942. The farmer-owned company has 7,000 employees and is the largest seed company in the European Union. Fort Collins, Colorado serves as the North American headquarters of Limagrain Cereal Seeds, the newest subsidiary of Group Limagrain. LCS has regional research stations in Washington, Indiana, Minnesota and Kansas. Visit [www.limagraincerealseeds.com](http://www.limagraincerealseeds.com).*