18 Steps for Maximum Winter Wheat Yields

1. Test soil to determine fertility of field.
2. Apply P, K, and lime according to soil test.
3. Select several high-yielding, disease-resistant, winterhardy varieties.
4. Calibrate the drill.
5. For conventional tillage, prepare a good seedbed.
6. For no-tillage, use a contact herbicide.
7. Nitrogen: 30 lb/A in fall as residual or applied.
9. Plant in 4- to 8-inch row spacings. Tramlines may be established at this time for subsequent applications.
10. Seed 35 (up to 40 for no-till) seeds per square foot of high-quality seed.
11. Apply insecticide as needed for insect control (fall and spring).
12. Check stand density near mid February when winter survival can be rated.
   a) If stand is adequate (25 or more plants per square foot), apply 30 to 40 pounds of nitrogen mid to late February.
   b) If stand is thin (less than 25 plants per square foot), apply 40 to 50 pounds of nitrogen mid to late February.
13. Apply an additional 50 to 60 pounds of nitrogen at Feekes 5 (mid March).
14. Use proper weed control measures (fall and spring).
15. Apply fungicides as needed for disease control during the growing season.
16. Harvest on time at optimum grain moisture (13% to 15%).
17. Provide and prepare adequate, safe storage space.
18. Market wisely for optimum profit.
## Winter Wheat Calendar

### Wheat Growth Stages
- **Dormancy**
- **Tillering**
- **Tillering Completed**
- **Jointing**
- **Boot**
- **Heading**
- **Ripening**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>Nov-Dec-Jan.</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Soil Test</td>
<td>Soil Probe for Compaction</td>
<td>Fertilize (N, P, K)</td>
<td>Tillage (if any)</td>
<td>Purchase Seed</td>
<td>Prepare Drill for Planting</td>
<td>Calibrate Drill</td>
<td>Clean/Treat Seed</td>
<td>Plant Seed</td>
<td>Apply PGR</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Insect and Disease Management</strong></td>
<td>Scout for Aphids and Fall Armyworms</td>
<td>Scout for Aphids and Armyworms</td>
<td>Scout for Aphids, Armyworms and Cereal Leaf Beetle</td>
<td>Spray Wild Garlic, Henbit, Chickweed and Other Weeds</td>
<td>No-Till Weed Control</td>
<td>Spray for Grass or Broadleaf Weeds</td>
<td>Scout for Weeds</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Weed Management</strong></td>
<td>No-Till Weed Control</td>
<td>Spray for Grass or Broadleaf Weeds</td>
<td>Spray for Wild Garlic, Henbit, Chickweed and Other Weeds</td>
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<td>No-Till Weed Control</td>
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<td>Spray for Grass or Broadleaf Weeds</td>
<td>Single Nitrogen Application</td>
<td>Late Nitrogen Application</td>
<td>Early Nitrogen Application</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Stored Grain Management and Marketing</strong></td>
<td>Inspect Grain Bins</td>
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<td><strong>Aerate to Cool Grain</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Aerate to Maintain Grain Temperature</strong></td>
<td>Aerate to Warm Grain</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summarize and Analyze Enterprise Costs and Returns (Past and Future)</strong></td>
<td>Prepare a Marketing Plan</td>
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### Growth Stages
- **One Shoot**
- **Tillering**
- **Tillering Completed**
- **Jointing**
- **Boot**
- **Heading**
- **Ripening**

### Growth Phases
- **Wheat Growth Stages**
- **Post-Harvest Stages**

### Management Practices
- **Production Practices**
- **Insect and Disease Management**
- **Weed Management**
- **Stored Grain Management and Marketing**

### Key Dates
- **August**: Soil Test, Start Harvest
- **September**: Soil Probe for Compaction, Finish Harvest
- **October**: Fertilize (N, P, K), Start Variety Selection
- **November-December-January**: Tillage (if any), Plant Double-Crop Soybeans
- **February**: Purchase Seed
- **March**: Tillage (if any), Plan for Next Crop
- **April**: Tillage (if any), Plant Double-Crop Soybeans
- **May**: Tillage (if any), Plant Double-Crop Soybeans
- **June**: Tillage (if any), Plant Double-Crop Soybeans
- **July**: Tillage (if any), Plant Double-Crop Soybeans