NAMING WHEAT VARIETIES.

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Crop varieties, must be distinguished by names. These names must be used frequently by a host of agronomic workers as well as by crop growers and crop users. The form and appropriateness of these names, therefore, are of general interest. It is desirable that they be short, simple, and appropriate, easily spelled and pronounced. It also is desirable that a single name of this kind be designated and accepted for each recognized variety.

CONFUSION IN VARIETAL NAMES.

The multiplication of names and other designations for crop varieties has been carried to great extremes. The resulting confusion also is very great, especially in those crops like wheat where the number of actual varieties is very large. These names and near names may be classified into three series, as follows: (1) Names, (2) descriptive phrases, and (3) numbers. As examples of names, Fulcaster, Fultz, Jones Fife, and Kubanka may be cited. As examples of descriptive phrases we may quote Bluestem, Early Red Clawson, Jones Paris Prize, Purple Straw, and White Australian. Numbers applied in place of names may be typified by Iowa No. 404, Minnesota No. 163, and Washington Hybrid No. 128.

At the present time, the existing confusion and multiplication of varieties places a great burden on agronomic workers. It renders uncertain and difficult the interpretation of published results of experiments. This confusion occurs in two principal ways. (1) The same name is applied to very different varieties in different parts of the country; (2) The same variety passes under several different names in different parts of the country, or even in the same part.

Good examples of the same name, or rather descriptive phrase, applied to different varieties are Bluestem and Red Russian. In the Far West, Bluestem is an awnless variety with glabrous white glumes and white soft kernels, usually spring-sown. According to Leighty, an eastern fall-sown variety with similar spike and kernel characters

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