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On an average (2012-13 to 2016-17), HD 2967 demonstrated 14.72 per cent and 30.07 per cent yield gain respectively in NWPZ and NEPZ in comparison to check varieties. Similarly, HD 3086 registered an average yield gain of 10.71 per cent over check yield at the NWPZ. The following are the excerpts from farmers who cultivated these varieties.





 Sh. Vikas a progressive farmer from Taraori, Karnal (NWPZ) says HD 3086 is a top class variety and cultivating continuously for four years and he recommends the variety to others...

 Sh. Karampal practicing wheat cultivation at Ramraj, Muzzafarnagar (NWPZ) says HD 2967 is a high yielding variety of all varieties and covers about 70 per cent area in his village...

 Sh. Harnandan Singh from Peont, Karnal (NWPZ) says HD 2967 is a high yielding variety giving more than 25 quintals per acre and he cultivates since the past 6 years...

 Sh. Harsant Singh from Bhutal Kalan, Sangrur (NWPZ) says HD 3086 is an exceptional performer at his field without any incidence of pests and diseases and continuing cultivation since 2015...

 Sh. Mohinder Singh from Rasina, Kaithal (NWPZ) says HD 3086 is a fantastic and outclass other varieties in terms of yield, resistance to biotic and abiotic stress. He is also of the view that none can match its performance at the present situation...

 Farmers from Sitamai village of Karnal (NWPZ) says HD 3086 is the only variety preferred by a majority of the farmers. Around 70 per cent of wheat in their village is HD 3086 and they think it is good replacement for HD 2967...

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2018



Promising Landmark Wheat Varieties for
Ensuring Food Security



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Wheat is an important staple food crop for Indians and has been the harbinger of 'green revolution' leading to self-sufficiency in food production. It is a 'critical staff' of life for a majority and finds a significant share in consumption basket. India recorded an all-time highest production of 98.51 million tonnes of wheat during 2016-17 registering the highest crop productivity (3.2 t/ha) hitherto. Undoubtedly, enhancement in the genetic yield potential of wheat varieties over years resulted in consistent higher production and productivity.

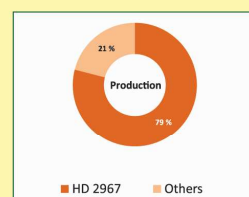
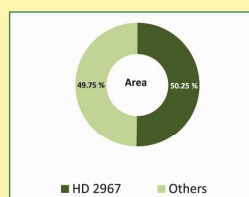
Wheat varieties are major reasons for achieving food security and surplus status in wheat production of the nation. The ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal under the aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research has made tremendous efforts in coordinating the national varietal evaluation under All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP). A total of 437 wheat varieties have been released since the inception of AICRP on Wheat and Barley. Several landmark varieties have been released hitherto, of them, two mega varieties viz., HD 2967 and HD 3086 stands tall among farming community owing to their multiple traits resulting in high yield. The two varieties have contributed significantly to the national production.

Overview of HD 2967 and HD 3086

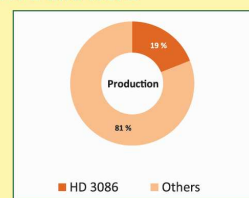
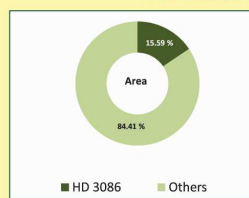
Particulars	HD 2967	HD 3086
Potential yield	6.60 t/ha	7.11 t/ha
Average yield	5.04 t/ha	5.43 t/ha
Release year	2011 (NWPZ) 2014 (NEPZ)	2013
Estimated acreage (2017)	~11 mha	~2 mha
Share in area	50.25 % of NWPZ & NEPZ	15.59% of NWPZ
Estimated production (2017)	54.23 mt	9.29 mt
Share in production	79% of NWPZ & NEPZ	19% of NWPZ
Value of production (2017)*	₹ 881 billion	₹ 151 billion

*estimated at current support prices (2016-17)

The popular wheat varieties (HD 2967 and HD 3086) were released for cultivation in the North Western Plains Zone (NWPZ), of late, HD 2967 has gained popularity among farmers and is being cultivated in the North Eastern Plains Zone (NEPZ) as well. Both the varieties have strong preference among farmers for grain production as well as seed producers for seed multiplication and proliferation owing to its great demand. As per our estimates, HD 2967 which was released in 2011 for NWPZ and 2014 for NEPZ occupies around 11 mha (50.25% of area under NWPZ and NEPZ) and HD 3086 released in 2013 occupies around 2 mha (15.59% of area under NWPZ). The two landmark varieties viz., HD 2967 and HD 3086 accounts for about 79% and 19% of wheat produced from the NWPZ & NEPZ and NWPZ, respectively. In monetary terms estimated at current prices (2017), the produce from these two varieties were worth for about ₹881 billion and ₹151 billion respectively for HD 2967 and HD 3086.



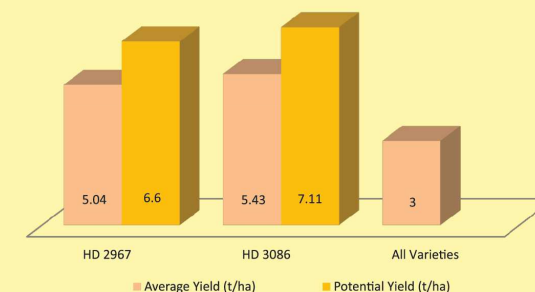
HD 2967: Share in NWPZ and NEPZ



HD 3086: Share in NWPZ

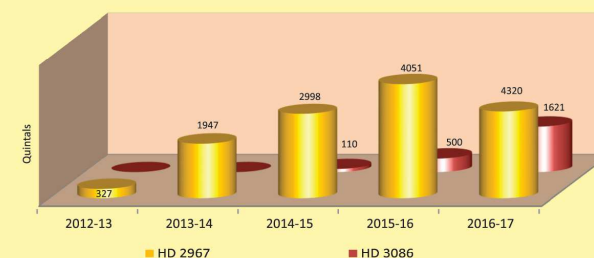
Yield and Breeder Seed Production

Consequent to significant higher yield irrespective of growing regions, HD 2967 and HD 3086 picked popularity among all categories of farmers. Seeds of these varieties were in high demand and owing to this; the amount of breeder seed produced could not match the desired level by the farmers.



Yield Level of Wheat Varieties

HD 2967 though released officially in 2011, but the acreage had witnessed a huge increase before the release owing to its popularity. Seeds were multiplied and distributed by the farmers themselves under unorganised network. However, HD 3086 of late gains the momentum and is declared as a superior and substitute for HD 2967. Hitherto, the potential yield of HD 3086 is the highest registered among the HD series.



Trend in Breeder Seed Production

Demonstrations and Farmer Excerpts

Frontline demonstration is one of the extension methods to popularise the successful technology to farmers' field. The two mega varieties being adored by farmers never failed at their soil. Both the varieties consistently showed significant increase in yield over years and demonstrated plots.