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Davis, J.R., O.C. Huisman, D.O. Everson, A.T. Schneider, and L.H. Sorensen. *Suppression of Verticillium Wilt with Wheat and Improved Yield and Quality of the Russet Burbank Potato.* 

Field observations during 1994 showed suppression of Verticillium wilt (*Verticillium dahliae* Kleb) when the potato crop was preceded by spring planted winter wheat. With this suppression, yields were increased by 7 to 51% depending on previous cropping practices (fallow, Golden Jubilee sweet, and super sweet corn), while usable tubers increased by 9 to 59%. A 1997 field study confirmed these results when 2 consecutive years of the following cropping treatments preceded potato: fallow, Ute winter wheat planted in spring, Ute winter wheat planted in fall, and Columbia peas planted in the spring. The relative incidence of Verticillium wilt between treatments was as follows: Ute winter wheat planted in the spring < Ute winter wheat planted in the fall < Columbia peas < fallow. The highest yield (473 cwt/A – 53 t/ha) and specific gravity occurred after spring planted winter wheat, while fall planted winter wheat, pea, and fallow treatments were respectively lower: 414 cwt/A (46 t/ha), 397 cwt/A (44 t/ha), and 315 cwt/A (35 t/ha). Spring planted winter wheat also provided the highest yield of U.S. #1 potatoes. Soil inoculum densities (ID) of *V. dahliae* did not differ between treatments, but *Fusarium* spp ID increased following winter wheat planted in spring.