



---

## **The RYE BELT Project Presents Itself**

**Thomas Blumtritt**, Head of Sales Germany/Poland KWS LOCHOW

**Claus Hinrich Heuer**, Product Manager Rye International KWS LOCHOW

RYE BELT is the name given to an international rye initiative. The uppermost aim of this long-term project is to promote the international competitiveness of rye-producing farmers. To this end KWS – with its rye growing expertise – has assembled specialists from agriculture, consulting companies, research and trade from the most diverse regions of Europe and formed these into what are known as national designer teams.

Despite having a high yield potential, high efficiency from a cultivation aspect and a great variety of applications, with around 6 million ha of cultivated area rye is regarded as a niche product. Approximately ninety percent of worldwide rye growing is found in the region between the North German Plain across to the Ural mountains. The so-called RYE BELT stretches across regions from Germany, Poland, the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Belarus and other countries in Central Europe. In these countries the cultivation of rye on light to medium soil is a significant contributor to the economic success of farmers.

Rye has a diverse range of applications – whether it be for bread-making and feed grain or as a renewable resource. The aim of the RYE BELT Project is to identify and make these sales and commercial channels accessible to its specialist audience within the rye-growing regions. Trials are currently ongoing examining all aspects of the growing and commercial exploitation of rye and focusing in issues specific to particular countries. The range of research topics is as wide as the number of countries that make up the RYE BELT. Some of these trials concern feed testing looking at special issues and there is a wide variety of cultivation studies being carried out in the field, while in the area of human nutrition there are research programmes currently examining the use of rye products. A whole of wealth of findings from these trials and studies will be presented at this congress.

The network of national and international experts in the field of rye is helping to uncover new information as well as bundling the data already to hand. Further information on the RYE BELT Project can be found on the homepage at [www.ryebelt.com](http://www.ryebelt.com).

---

Contact:  
Claus Hinrich Heuer  
Tel.: +49 (0) 5051 477-325  
E-Mail: [claus.heuer@kws-lochow.de](mailto:claus.heuer@kws-lochow.de)  
[www.ryebelt.com](http://www.ryebelt.com)

KWS LOCHOW GMBH  
Post box 11 97  
29296 Bergen  
  
Ferdinand-von-Lochow-Str. 5  
29303 Bergen  
Deutschland