



Pest e-alerts



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Wheat Disease Update

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Oklahoma: Wheat diseases are still on the “quiet side” in Oklahoma. I and Dr. Brett Carver (OSU Wheat Breeder) have both found powdery mildew (PM) and some leaf rust pustules in Jagalene and Jagger with greatest severity of PM in early planted Jagalene. Foliar diseases in other varieties are minimal. Aphids (bird cherry-oat and greenbug) were evident in nearly all the plots I examined yesterday around Stillwater. Varieties known to be susceptible to the wheat soilborne mosaic and wheat spindle streak mosaic are still showing severe stunting and symptoms.



Reports from other parts of Oklahoma are as follows: Lahoma Experiment Station (north central OK) (Dr. Brett Carver, OSU Wheat Breeder): March 17th, Dr. Carver indicated that leaf rust and PM pustules were still evident at Lahoma, but had not increased since his last visit there about 10 days ago.

Panhandle (Rick Kochenower, Area Res & Extn Agron Spec): Foliar diseases still minimal; he is starting to see some aphids, cutworms, and brown wheat mites (see Vol. 8, No. 3).

Northwest/northcentral OK (Roger Gribble, NW District Area Extn Agron Spec): Foliar wheat diseases are still minimal or lacking; aphids are the biggest concern.

Southwestern OK (Terry Pitts, Area Extn IPM Spec): Foliar diseases still at low levels. Brown wheat mites and aphids are biggest concern.

Updates from other states:

Texas – Dr. Jackie Rudd, Wheat Breeder, Texas A&M University (26 Feb): I was in Castroville, TX yesterday, looking at the rust nursery there. The nursery looks very good. Good stands and plant development. The spring wheat trials and rows were planted in mid December and about half of the entries are headed. The winter wheat trials were planted on Nov 20-21 and are anywhere from jointing to late boot. This may be a little ahead of past years, but not too different.

Leaf rust is heavy in susceptible lines; races virulent on Lr24 (Jagelene), Lr17 (Jagger), and Lr39 (Overley) are prevalent. This is much more rust than we have had the past two years at this



time. It is a little surprising considering how dry it is down here. The nursery is irrigated, but there is not much other irrigated wheat in the area. I did not see any stripe rust, but powdery mildew is building on highly susceptible entries. This area got some rain in the last few days - anywhere from 0.2 to 2.0 inches. Maybe some of the pasture/brushland will begin to green up now. No wildflowers yet. Mesquite is beginning to leaf.

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