



# Pest e-alerts



Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University  
127 Noble Research Center, Stillwater, OK74078  
405.744.5527

Vol. 13, No. 16

<http://entopl.okstate.edu/Pddl/>

May 13, 2014

## Wheat Disease Update

Bob Hunger, Extension Wheat Pathologist



At field days yesterday (Cherokee) and the end of last week (Kildare and Lahoma) in north central Oklahoma, wheat was at or approaching the milk stage. Some rain has fallen in local areas where it may help the wheat, but mostly the rain was either too late (southwestern and western OK) or nothing fell. Temperature this week is forecast to be cool (70s), but little chance of widespread rain. No foliar diseases were observed at any of the field days this or last week. We continue to receive samples testing positive for mite transmitted viruses and/or barley yellow dwarf virus, but now that the wheat is turning these samples are becoming infrequent. At the field day yesterday (Cherokee), whiteheads in the trial were observed that were the result of freeze damage, but an occasional plant/tiller also could be found with a dark discoloration of the lower stem. Sometimes this discoloration was indicative of dryland root rot but occasionally a lesion more typical of sharp eyespot also could be found.



Dryland root rot  
(healthy stem at top).

Sharp eyespot lesion.



**Kansas:** (Dr. Erick De Wolf, Ext Plant Pathologist, KSU) 12-May-2014:  
The wheat crop in Kansas has raced ahead in growth stage this past week. The growth stage now ranges from early stages of kernel development and flag leaf emergence in the North. The hot, dry weather this past week was a major issue in the state although rains this weekend have brought some relief to some parts of central KS.



I was scouting and participating in extension programs in South Central KS this past week including Barber, Harper, Kingman, Pratt, and Reno counties. I found no leaf rust or stripe rust in these demonstration plots or producers fields. Powdery mildew has been absent this year. I found trace levels of tan spot in a few fields on lower leaves. Other reports from Cheyenne, Jefferson, Nemaha, Osage Phillips, Saline, Sedgwick, Sherman, Sumner, Wallace counties indicate there is little or no disease in other areas of the state.

The risk of severe disease in Kansas remains very low this year.



**Oregon:** (Dr. Michael Flowers; Ext Cereal Specialist; Oregon State Univ) 12-May-2014:

Western Oregon: Stripe rust pressure is still low. Over the last few weeks hotspots have started to develop in several fields. In my nurseries, stripe rust pressure is very low. Only a trace of rust was found on the commonly grown varieties (Goetze, SY Ovation, LCS ArtDeco, Kaseberg). On a good note, Xianming Chen was able to type the stripe rust I sent him on Kaseberg. It is not a new race. Septoria pressure is also generally low, but continues the disease continues to move up the plant and in untreated plots the disease is starting to infect the flag leaf. The crop is at flag leaf emergence (GS 8) to early heading (GS 10.1). Growers in the region have taken advantage of some good weather and most fields have had at least one application of fungicide to control foliar diseases.

Eastern Oregon: Stripe rust hotspots were found in the Hermiston and Pendleton-Ruggs nurseries. In addition a trace amount of rust was found in my nursery in Milton-Freewater. Growers in this region should watch their fields and treat the rust as needed. The crop is generally between 2 visible nodes (GS 7) and early heading (GS 10.1), depending on location.

---

**Dr. Richard Grantham**  
**Director, Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Laboratory**

Oklahoma State University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Robert E. Whitson, Director of Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma. This publication is printed and issued by Oklahoma State University as authorized by the Vice President, Dean, and Director of the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural.