



Pest e-alerts



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Vol. 16, No. 12

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

27/03/2017

Wheat Disease Update – 25 March 2017
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Foliar wheat diseases remain relatively quiet in Oklahoma. On scouting done around Stillwater and from trips taken Thursday and Friday to west and a bit northwest of Oklahoma City and northwest up to Enid, the only foliar diseases of any consequence observed were leaf spot diseases (e.g. tan spot) in no-till fields (Figure 1A). Most of the wheat I saw was between 2 nodes readily apparent (GS 7) but ranged up to GS 8-9 (flag leaf just emerging to fully emerged). In some fields, powdery mildew was moderately severe on lower leaves in “hot spots,” but again, not at a high frequency. I saw no stripe and only sparse leaf rust, but Dr. David Marburger had a photo of stripe rust (Figure 1B) sent to him from a grower (Anderson Farms) that indicated the photo was taken from experimental plots at the Noble Foundation near Ardmore (Carter County). Apparently there was not much stripe rust, but there were low to moderate levels of leaf rust (Figure 1C).



Figure 1. (A) Tan spot symptoms as seen on wheat foliage in no-till fields; (B) stripe rust as seen in south central OK (Carter County); (C) a photo of leaf rust to compare with stripe rust.

Reports/excerpts of reports from other states:

Dr. Amir Ibrahim, Professor & Small Grains Breeder/Geneticist, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Mar 22, 2017: “The Rust Evaluation Nursery at **Castroville** looks good and there are no signs of heavy insect or weed pressure. There was no significant stripe rust at this location, but leaf rust is moderate to heavy in the mid canopy and should be building on towards the flag leaf in the next few weeks.

Uvalde seems to be the first location where we detect wheat stripe rust every year. Stripe rust was uniform in February and early March at this location, but it is no longer active now due to the warming temperatures. On the other hand, leaf rust is building up.”

[In other locations in South and Central TX - paraphrased] – Leaf rust present at College Station and McGregor; wheat stripe rust is not active at College Station or McGregor.

Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Laboratory

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