



Pest e-alerts



*Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University
127 Noble Research Center, Stillwater, OK 74078
405.744.5527*

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Wheat Disease Update

Bob Hunger, Extension Wheat Pathologist



Oklahoma: 14-May; Dr. Bob Hunger, OSU Extension Wheat Pathologist: Wet and cool describes the conditions over most of Oklahoma for this past week. Most of my time was spent around Stillwater and in north central OK at the Lahoma Station (15 miles west of Enid). Wheat was mostly at the full berry stage – some variation due to variety and planting date. Hail hit the Lahoma Station on Wednesday or Thursday; I heard estimates of 10-20% damage, but have no idea how widespread the hail was in

Oklahoma. Stripe rust is still visible, although it is entering the “necrosis phase” now. However, the cool wet weather the past 3-4 days and more forecast, and could “reactivate” it to some extent. I still have not seen heavy or even moderate incidence of leaf rust. Pustules of leaf rust can be found, but they are scattered and fairly sparse. I also have heard talk of some root rot symptoms showing. One sample from southwestern OK is most consistent with eyespot (strawbreaker). Producers at the field day yesterday at Lahoma were asking about take-all, and from their description it sounded like it could indeed be take-all but my impression was that it was not widespread.

One report I had from Mike Hogg (producer – Granite, OK in southwest OK) indicated they had received some significant rain in the area, although just north of Granite was still dry. Rain was again in the forecast for Friday into Saturday.

Jen Olson (Plant Disease Diagnostician, OSU PDIDL) indicated she has received several samples over the last week from northwestern OK/panhandle. These were positive for wheat streak mosaic, wheat mosaic (High plains), Triticum mosaic and /or barley yellow dwarf viruses.

Arkansas: 14-May; Dr. Gene Milus, Wheat Pathologist, University of Arkansas: “At Fayetteville, stripe rust is still progressing in plots and leaf rust can be found here and there at low levels. Wheat is milky to early soft dough. BYD is much more frequent than I expected given late planting, high rate of Gaucho seed treatment, and foliar Warrior application in mid December.



In eastern Arkansas where most of the wheat is grown, temperatures have been higher than at Fayetteville, and soil moisture generally ranges from dry in the south to excessive in the north. Extension personnel report that the stripe rust epidemic is over, leaf rust is common on susceptible cultivars but still at low levels, and leaf blotch is still confined to the lower leaves. Maturity generally ranges from late soft dough in the south to early soft dough in the north.

Today, I received the first report and photos of what appears to be scab from near Pine Bluff (south of Little Rock). We appear to be in a rainy spell now and may see more scab symptoms.

No report of stem rust yet.”



Kansas: 12-May; Dr. Erick DeWolf, Plant Pathologist, Kansas State University: “The stripe rust reported in North Central Kansas has progressed significantly during the past 2 weeks. I visited a variety performance test near Belleville located in Republic County where stripe rust had been observed at low levels on the F-2 and F-3 leaves a few weeks ago. The disease has now moved to the F-1 leaves on many varieties with an average incidence of about 5% to 10% in varieties Jagger and Jagalene. Several “hot-spots” were noted. The most severe disease was associated with an experimental variety HV9W04-1594R. This variety had incidence >80% on the F-1 leaves. Severity of the infected leaves ranged from 5 to 30%. Fortunately, this level of disease was not present in other varieties. Wheat at this location was in the boot to early stages of heading. Weather has been cool with persistent rain showers.

Septoria leaf blotch could become a significant issue in some varieties in North Central KS. Trace levels of leaf rust were also noted at this location. No stem rust noted to date.”

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

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