



# Pest e-alerts



---

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

---

Vol. 15, No. 2

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

Feb 10, 2016

---

## Wheat Disease Update

Bob Hunger, Extension Wheat Pathologist



Since my last report, I don't believe a lot has changed with the disease situation. Similar to what I indicated in mid-December, I have continued to find small pustules of powdery mildew and a few scattered leaf rust pustules in rank wheat around Stillwater. The temperature and weather has been such that these two foliar diseases (powdery mildew and leaf rust) have been able to persist but have not increased in the wheat around Stillwater. This seems to be the case for southwestern and south central OK as well. Gary Strickland (OCES Educator & SWREC Dry-land Cropping Systems Specialist; Jackson/Greer County in SW OK) indicated wheat in SW OK is lagging behind the rest of the state and mostly is just now establishing a solid root system. He had sent us a sample last week in which he expected a root rot to be involved, but we were not able to confirm any root rot pathogens. Gary also indicated that he has confirmed Hessian fly at damaging levels in at least a few fields in Jackson County. He will be going out in the next few days to scout additional fields. Aaron Henson (OCES Educator; Tillman County in southern OK) indicated wheat in his area varies from quite small to well-established with the majority of the wheat not yet jointing. He is aware of the earlier reports of scattered stripe rust showing in south-central OK, but has not heard anything to indicate increase in incidence or severity. For additional information regarding early season foliar wheat diseases and possible control with an early fungicide application please see:

- E-Pest Alert (Dec 18, 2015) at <http://entopl.okstate.edu/pddl/advisory.htm>
- OCES Fact sheet PSS-2138 discussing split application of fungicides at <http://wheat.okstate.edu/wheat-management/insectsdisease/PSS2138splitvssinglefungicideapplications.pdf>
- Dr. Jeff Edwards blog at <http://osuwheat.com>, or go directly to the blog at: <http://osuwheat.com/2016/02/09/is-this-the-year-for-split-fungicide-application>

Also around Stillwater, I am beginning to see symptoms indicative of wheat soil-borne mosaic/wheat spindle streak mosaic in areas such as my WSBM/WSSM screening nursery. At this point, it is somewhat difficult to differentiate between symptoms of WSBM/WSSM and discoloration resulting from cold. The photo below shows the contrast between a variety susceptible to WSBM/WSSM and a resistant variety, but was taken about 2-3 weeks later than today. Thus, over the next month as temperature rises and wheat greens up, symptoms will become more striking. However, nearly 100% of varieties planted across Oklahoma are resistant to both these viruses, so this disease complex has not caused a problem to wheat in Oklahoma (or other states) for many years. For more information on the WSBM/WSSM complex, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/user/OSUWheat/videos> and watch the video on “Wheat Soilborne Mosaic Virus and Wheat Spindle Streak Mosaic Virus.”



---

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

The pesticide information presented in this publication was current with federal and state regulations at the time of printing. The user is responsible for determining that the intended use is consistent with the label of the product being used. Use pesticides safely. Read and follow label directions. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.

Oklahoma State University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Higher Education Act), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal and state laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, genetic information, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, or status as a veteran, in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This provision includes, but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services. The Director of Equal Opportunity, 408 Whitehurst, OSU, Stillwater, OK 74078-1035; Phone 405-744-5371; email: [eeo@okstate.edu](mailto:eeo@okstate.edu) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies; Director of Equal Opportunity. Any person (student, faculty, or staff) who believes that discriminatory practices have been engaged in based on gender may discuss his or her concerns and file informal or formal complaints of possible violations of Title IX with OSU's Title IX Coordinator 405-744-9154.

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