Moist conditions have promoted a lot of stem disease in some canola crops across Alberta and B.C. Include a stem disease assessment while clubroot scouting.

CANOLA WATCH

FREE, UNBIASED, TIMELY AND RESEARCH FOCUSED

| KEY TOPICS | PLANT ESTABLISHMENT | FERTILITY | DISEASES | INSECTS | WEEDS | HARVEST & STORAGE |

August 28, 2019 - Issue #22

Can you identify verticillium stripe? Our quiz and lead article this week can help. Photo Credit: Justine Cornelsen

Stem infections: How to tell them apart Pre-harvest disease scouting could uncover a number of stem infections in canola fields across the Prairies. Farmers and agronomists are familiar with blackleg lesions and brittle sclerotinia-infected stems. But what about verticillium stripe? Or grey stem? Or fusarium wilt? Here are distinguishing stem-damage symptoms for each:

Sclerotinia stem rot: Bleached white appearance. Infected stems tend to shred and shatter very easily. White mouldy growth can occur. Black sclerotia (the size of canola seeds) will form inside the stem.

Blackleg: Stem lesions with pycnidia (black spots). Base of stem (crown) becomes woody. Cross section cut reveals blackening.

Verticillium stripe: As the disease advances, stem outer skin peels back to reveal tiny black microsclerotia beneath the surface.

Grey stem: Large areas of purple-to-grey on the stem, often speckled.

Fusarium wilt: Pink, yellow or reddish-brown streaks on stems.

READ MORE

In This Issue

> Canola Watch quiz – Stem infections

Six photos of stem infections. Can you identify the disease based on the photo? TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

> Clubroot area expands. Scout all canola...

...including fields with clubroot-resistant varieties. [Quick Q: Have you checked for clubroot yet? Yes No] With the goal to keep spores 'low and local', what is your plan for 2020? READ MORE

> Bertha armyworm at thresholds in Peace

Growers in the Birch Hills, Saddle Hills and Northern Sunrise areas in particular are encouraged to scout. READ MORE

> Late-season hail: Damaged pods and swath timing

Late season hail can increase the shattering risk for damaged pods. Before swathing earlier than necessary, take these decision-making steps... READ MORE

> How to assess seed-colour change

Optimal swath timing for canola yield and quality is when at least 60% of seeds on the main stem are showing some colour change. READ MORE

> "Why should I check for losses?" and other harvest Qs

What do I do with uneven fields? Should I swath or straight combine lodged canola? When is canola ready to straight combine? And more. READ the Q&A

> Bin prep: Stored grain insects, heaters, monitoring tools

This article has lots of tips, including the storage risk from dead grasshoppers (crickets, flea beetles, cabbage seedpod weevils) in the grain. READ MORE

> Assess canola quality through the Harvest Sample Program

Send a sample to the CGC and get results for grade, dockage, green, oil content, etc. READ MORE

> Farmers can get certified for sales to Europe

Growers interested in this market can contact a local Viterra, Cargill or G3 elevator. READ MORE

ASK A QUESTION

CONTACT THE AGRONOMY TEAM

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This report is supported by each of the provincial canola grower associations. For more information on some of their activities, check out the following links:

Alberta Canola has a free e-newsletter called Alberta Canola Connections. Visit albertacanola.com and click the sign-up icon on the right site of the homepage.

SaskCanola has a free e-newsletter called SaskCanola Update. Visit www.saskcanola.com and click the sign-up icon on the right side of the homepage to stay connected.

Stay connected with the Manitoba Canola Growers by signing up for their Canola Crush Newsletter at www.canolagrowers.com

Peace River Agriculture Development Fund, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture & Lands, sponsors Peace River region coverage. For canola activities in British Columbia, visit B.C. Grain Producers Association at www.bcgrain.com.

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