



Pulse Agronomy Network~ *Partnership in Industry*

July 5, 2004 - All Pulse Bulletin #13

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ASCOCHYTA BLIGHT AND POWDERY MILDEW IN FIELD PEA

AAFRD – CDC NORTH STAFF

Pulse Agronomy Network

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- Occurrence of ascochyta blight in field pea can be as early as mid-June, although most infections and disease spread occurs in July and August – right up to harvest time. Initial symptoms of ascochyta was found on June 28 in the Westlock area.
- Powdery mildew occurs usually much later in the season-based on cooler night temperatures which results in a heavy dew during periods of little rainfall.
- Weather conditions which favour these fungal diseases are:
 - Ascochyta blight---frequent rainfall and warm temperatures resulting in muggy conditions.
 - Powdery mildew---little or no rainfall and night temperatures below 10° which creates the morning dew. If a frost is predicted-check for powdery mildew
- When to spray can only be correctly determined by field scouting (twice per week) utilizing a disease prediction score system – Syngenta, U of S, BASF all have prediction systems. **Please see web link to forms!**
- Ascochyta blight damage has resulted in yield losses in Alberta of up to 12 bu/ac and 40% losses in Manitoba pea crops. Yield reduction, loss of standability in the crop and quality losses due to a poorer harvest are KEY indicators of ascochyta presence.
- Powdery mildew can be a much more rapidly spreading disease than is ascochyta. From the first infection of white powdery masses (the size of a nail head to a penny) to a totally white field can occur within 72 hours (3 days). Scouting fields is critical to properly time fungicide applications for best and earliest control.
- Powdery mildew infection over the entire plant will also greatly reduce effectiveness of desiccant Reglone® and pre-harvest glyphosate and related products

- Fungicide applications are normally considered and applied **too late** for optimum economic benefits suggesting a lack of proper scouting of the field.
- Remember to scout your field often (twice a week) and immediately after a significant rainfall or cold weather period.
- For more information on products, symptoms, Prediction systems (Field Scouting Forms) and economics of ascochyta blight and powdery mildew please visit the following website:

Ascochyta Blight Powdery Mildew

[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/nfs8744?opendocument](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/nfs8744?opendocument)

Crop Tour - Thursday, August 5, 2004

Hosted by Field Crop Development Center (FCDC), Alberta Pulse Growers, Gateway Research Organization (GRO)

SCHEDULE

Meet at Westlock Community Hall

7:30-8:30 Pancake Breakfast

8:30-1:30 Tours/Talks

1:30-2:30 Steak Lunch

TOUR TOPICS

Pulse Trials

Demonstration plots of pulse genetics, varieties and agronomy

Regional Cereal Varieties Program

Demonstration plots of barley, wheat, triticale, flax and oats varieties.

Canola Variety/Agronomy Trials

Demonstration plots of canola management systems, variety, seeding depth and fertility.

Pathology

Demonstration plots of wheat and barley diseases featuring the BASF fungicide **Headline™**

Development of Biomaterial in the Pulp and Building Industry in Alberta

Demonstration plots of flax, switch grass, wild ryegrass, bluejoint reedgrass, corn, sunflower, tall fescue and much more.

CONTACTS

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SPONSORS

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REGISTRATION

Fee is \$50.00 per person and includes pancake breakfast, steak supper and tour. Please forward fee with you registration by July 23, 2004.

2004 FIELD DAY REGISTRATION FORM Deadline for registration is July 23

Name: _____ Company _____

Bus Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Number of people in your group: _____ * \$50.00 = _____ enclosed

If you are registering a group, please include a list with the names, address and of all the people you are registering.

Please make cheques payable to Gateway Research Organization

Mail to: Gateway Research Organization, PO Box 5865, Westlock AB T7P 2P6