



Cereal rust risk for 2011

Risk factors and seasonal outlook (assessed May 7)

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In southern coastal and lower great southern regions which have received summer and autumn rainfall, barley leaf rust and wheat stem rust have been reported on barley volunteers in April. Risk of early incursions of these rusts in crops is heightened by the presence of rust on green bridge. In these regions monitor green bridge for presence of rust and manage crops accordingly.

For most of the central eastern and northern wheatbelt there is no indication of risk of early rust outbreaks. No rust was reported in these regions in 2010 and apart from some localised areas, rainfall has not supported survival of cereal regrowth. Rust inoculum levels are starting from a very low level across much of the wheatbelt.

Regional risk factors:

South coastal & lower Great Southern

- Summer and Autumn rainfall has supported volunteer regrowth in these regions, particularly of barley.
- Barley leaf rust and wheat stem rust have been identified on regrowth in the South Stirling and Esperance regions in April
- Monitor regrowth and early sown crops, particularly of susceptible varieties, and manage disease as required, particularly if favourable weather continues
- Continuing dry weather, delaying sowing will reduce risk of early outbreaks of these diseases
- There are currently no indications of wheat stripe rust inoculum in the region

Great Southern

- No wheat rust reported in 2010.
- Extended hot and dry summer conditions through most of the region mean that the risk of summer carryover of rust inoculum is low.
- Where autumn rain has allowed early sowing and barley volunteers are present, monitoring of stem rust susceptible varieties is recommended.

Central wheatbelt

- No rust reported in 2010.
- Extended hot and dry conditions through most of the region mean that the risk of summer carryover of rust inoculum is low.
- Very heavy rain in some eastern areas in Jan / Feb may have resulted in some areas of volunteer cereal regrowth, however lack of significant following rain (and no reports of rust) have reduced risk associated with any regrowth.
- Generally low risk of early rust outbreaks in this region.

Northern agricultural region

- No rust reported in 2010.
- While significant rainfall occurred over summer / autumn in some areas there were no reports of volunteer rust.
- Absence of rust in 2010 and no reported volunteer rust this season indicate low risk of early rust outbreaks in this region.

2011 Rust reports:

March - Barley leaf rust on barley volunteers, South Stirling
 April / May - Barley leaf rust on barley volunteers, South Stirling
Wheat stem rust on barley volunteers, South Stirling, Gibson

Rust identification is a free service. Please send plant samples to AGWEST Plant Laboratories.

Sampling information is available at www.agric.wa.gov.au/agwestplantlabs or 9368 3721.

Further information:

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