

WHEAT CROP HEALTH NEWSLETTER

Directorate of Wheat Research
P.B. 158, Karnal-132 001



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The second issue of Vol. 18 (2012-13) is being brought out this month. Crop health survey was carried out in various parts of the country by the scientists of DWR and the cooperating scientists of AICW&BIP during December, 2012. Crop health reports were received from Dr. J. Kumar (IARI, Wellington), Dr. K. K. Bhargava, ARS, Durgapura (Jaipur), Dr. S. K. Rana (Malan, Palampur), Dr. Madhu Meeta (PAU, Ludhiana), Dr. B. K. Honrao (ARI, Pune), **Dr. I. K. Kalappanavar** (UAS, Dharwad), Dr. P. N. Rasal (Niphad), Dr. Atul Kumar (IARI, Pusa) and Dr. I. K. Patel (Vijapur). Specially constituted team (Dr. Madhu Meeta, PAU, Ludhiana, Dr. R. Selvakumar, DWR, Karnal and Dr. J. K. Pandey, SKUAS&T, Jammu) surveyed Punjab from December 29-30 December, 2012 with special emphasis on yellow rust of whea. **Yellow rust was not observed till 31st December, 2012.**

North Western Plain Zone (NWPZ)

Dr. Indu Sharma, Project Director, DWR, Karnal surveyed the area between Karnal to Ludhiana on December 26 and from Amritsar to Ludhiana on 27th December. No rust was observed in any farmers field. In Ambala Rajpura Road, in village Salempura Sekha (N 30.44581, E 076.66255, 299m), approximately 45 days wheat crop was good. In another field, mustard was grown in between wheat and no weed was observed. In Khanna - Doraha road, in village Beeja near Rara Sahib Chowk (N 30.74347, E 076.12997, 298m), the crop was one month old and no weed was observed. In Amritsar Majitha road (N 30.74967, E 076.11568, 229m; N31.75509, E074.95267, 229m), no weed was observed in 20 days old crop. Overall in Amritsar area, there was mostly minimum tillage and broadcast method of sowing. No where any rust or pest was observed.

On 28th December, Dr. Selva Kumar (DWR, Karnal) surveyed the areas in the route starting from Karnal to Ludhiana via Ambala, Moga, Roopnagar, Kharar and Khanna. No rust was observed. Specially constituted team (Dr. Madhu Meeta, PAU, Ludhiana, Dr. R. Selvakumar, DWR, Karnal and Dr. J. K. Pandey, SKUAS&T, Jammu) surveyed Punjab areas from December 29-30 December, 2012 for yellow rust in wheat. On 29th Dec. 2012, no rust was observed in the farmers fields surveyed in Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur areas via Kishangarh, Mukeria, Nawa Sahar, Tibri, Gurdaspur and Sathiali. On 30th Dec. 2012, fields were surveyed in villages, Thala, Lasara, Urapur, Aur, Garcha, Rahon, PAU Farm at Ladowal, Nawnsahar, Banga and Khama. The crop was in healthy condition and there was no occurrence of any diseases / insect pests in any field. **The presence of any yellow rust pustule was not observed in any of the field in the surveyed areas.**

Survey was carried out for insect pest infesting wheat and their enemies in different places of zone III A, nearby Jaipur area by Dr. K. K. Bhargava, HOD Entomology & Wheat Entomologist AICWBIP, Dr. Ashok Bhatnagar, Centre Incharge ANCPWG & OSA, ICAR and Dr. A. S. Baloda, White grub Entomologist ARS Durgapura. In village Kajroli nearby Chomu (Jaipur), the wheat crop was heavily damaged by thirth instars larvae of white grub species of *Holotrichia* and another two species of *Meladera* and (*Anomola* sp.) in the second week of December, 2012. The team advised the farmers for insecticide application for managing this.

North Eastern Plain Zone (NEPZ)

Dr. Atul Kumar from IARI, Pusa informed that no rust was observed on any wheat variety in Samastipur area (Bihar).

Peninsular Zone (PZ)

In Niphad area, wheat crop health was monitored by Prof. D. A. Shambharkar, Dr. S. D. Patil, Entomologist and Dr. B. C. Game. The incidence of wireworm was observed during first week of Nov. 2012 in traces in rainfed trials at Niphad centre. The incidence of jassids and aphids was noticed in rainfed trials in the first week of Nov. 2012. The intensity of aphid was medium (10-15 aphid/shoot/plant) and it was noticed from seedling and onward stages. The plant protection measures were adopted for the control of aphids. In general crop condition was good. Crop health report received from Dr. B. K. Honrao, ARI, Pune indicated that there was no natural incidence of any rust, blight and other pests in wheat crop in Pune area. Overall crop health status was satisfactory. **Survey was conducted by Dr. I. K. Kalappanavar in villages Aminabhavi, Marewad, Narendra, Mangalghatti, Mulamuttal in Dharwad district (Karnataka) during 31.12.2012 and 01.01.2013. Leaf rust was observed 40S to 100S. Leaf rust was more severe on Amrut and paret green bread wheat plant.**

Southern Hill Zone (SHZ)

Dr. J. Kumar, Head, IARI Regional Station, Wellington, the Nilgiri hills observed brown and black rusts in wheat under natural conditions at Wellington during second fortnight of December, 2012.

Farmers' Day/Fair/Seminar

Dr. Indu Sharma, Project Director, DWR, Karnal highlighted the yellow rust management while addressing the farmers in seminar organized by Haryana Kisan Ayog in NDRI auditorium on December 22, 2012. The Directorate distributed the yellow rust management vistar cards among the farmers in Kisan Mela organized in NDRI, Karnal on December 23, 2012. Lecture on yellow rust and Karnal bunt management was delivered by Dr. Indu Sharma in Farmers' Fair organized by DWR, Karnal in village Veeram (Amritsar) on Dec. 27, 2012.

Yellow Rust (Stripe Rust) Management

Stripe rust or yellow rust appear in Northern Hill Zone and North Western Plain Zone. Disease appears in the form of yellow stripes on leaves. For managing stripe rust, farmers are advised to visit their crop regularly during January with special emphasis in the crop sown in between trees or shady areas. If farmers observe yellow rust in their wheat fields, following measures are recommended:

- As soon as yellow rust is observed in the field, one spray of Propiconazole 25EC (Tilt 25 EC) @ 0.1 per cent or Tebuconazole 250 EC (Folicur 250 EC) @ 0.1 per cent or Triademefon (Bayleton 25 WP) @ 0.1per cent be given to control the disease. One ml of chemical should be mixed in one litre water and thus 200 ml of fungicide mixed with 200 L of water should be sprayed in one acre wheat crop. If need, farmers are advised to repeat the spray.
- Farmers should spray the crop when there is no rain, no fog / dew etc.

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