

Meadowlark District Extension News  
May 1, 2015

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**Stripe Rust – It's Here!**

It's back! Stripe rust has arrived again in northeast Kansas. Will we see the yield losses of 2010 or will weather cause it to fizzle like it did in 2012? Either way, it's time to scout!

Like most of our foliar diseases, protecting the flag leaf is key. With the flag leaf emerging, or just ready to, on most of our crop, it's time to take a closer look at the disease pressure the crop is experiencing. An evaluation of the Meadowlark Extension District wheat variety plot on April 30<sup>th</sup> indicated very low levels of leaf rust with variable levels of stripe rust depending on variety. Most of the disease was in the lower canopy, but the virulent nature of stripe rust means constant monitoring is necessary. With that in mind, if we see stripe rust in the low-mid canopy area at heading, you will generally see a 50-60% chance of yield response at a rate high enough to cover the cost of the fungicide and application. If temperatures increase, the response could well be lower. If they stay lower, watch out!

A number of decision making tools are available to help you as you determine whether a fungicide application is warranted. Attention needs to be paid to the variety's disease package and potential response to treatment. Product efficacy, diseases present (or predicted!) and timing are important as well.

Some great references and information on stripe rust are available in the latest KSU eUpdate article on stripe rust by KSU Extension Plant Pathologist Dr. Erick DeWolf available at: [https://webapp.agron.ksu.edu/agr\\_social/eu\\_article.throck?article\\_id=538](https://webapp.agron.ksu.edu/agr_social/eu_article.throck?article_id=538). Another publication that can help you determine response potential is the 2014 Wheat Variety Disease and Insect Ratings publication: <http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/bookstore/pubs/mf991.pdf>. Copies are also available at your District Office. Regular updates will be posted on Twitter (@MEDAgronomy) and our Meadowlark Extension District Facebook page as well. Let me know what you find!

**Lawn Weeds: Wild Violet**

Wild violet is one of our most difficult to control lawn weeds. In fact, even some of our combination products have challenges! You can try the 2,4-D products, but you likely won't have very good luck. Instead, try something that contains triclopyr. Homeowner products include Turflon Ester and Weed-B-Gon Chickweed, Clover & Oxalis (several formulations of Weed-B-Gon are available, but only Weed-B-Gon Chickweed, Clover & Oxalis has triclopyr.). Be sure to follow product labels directions or serious damage to turfgrass may occur. Spray only on calm days and when temperatures are below 90 degrees to avoid damage to nearby plants.