



Issued: 8/8/2019



IN BRIEF

- Symptoms of rust, powdery mildew and cercospora are being found across the beet area
- However, disease development is not widespread at this stage – check each crop carefully
- Make sure you target disease development with fungicide application, as canopy protection will be key to maintaining yield in later harvested crops. Fungicides should be applied as soon as disease is found in crops
- Timing is key – apply fungicides at disease onset



ADVISORY

Foliar Disease Control – points to remember.

- Know what disease(s) are in your crop to select the best fungicide options. Details on diseases and fungicide options can be found in the 2019 BBRO Reference Book <https://bbro.co.uk/publications/reference-book/>



Figure 1: Early powdery mildew (Aug 2019)



Figure 2: Rust (July 2019)

- Know where specific varieties are sown within fields to assess disease levels. Infection may be more advanced in more susceptible varieties. Make the most of disease ratings of the 2020 RL list for rust and mildew <https://bbro.co.uk/sugar-beet-varieties/recommended-list/>

- Do not apply fungicides too early, wait for symptoms to show especially if a one spray approach is being used. Conversely, do not apply products too late otherwise effective disease control will be difficult for the remainder of the season
- Always follow label recommendations for applying products at the correct growth stage
- Ensure water volume recommendations are adhered to and are not cut back. Many products recommend that a higher water volume is used in crops with dense canopies to get better penetration and coverage
- Ensure the gap between the first and second (or second and third applications) is kept to within 28 days to prevent significant re-infection occurring between treatments.

Cercospora

We don't have consistent information of varietal susceptibility to cercospora but differences were observed last season so check different varieties carefully for this disease. Key symptoms of initial leaf infection to watch out for: regular circular spots with necrotic, tan-grey centres and reddish-brown borders. If the disease develops unchecked, these spots can coalesce into larger brown necrotic areas on the leaf. The photo shows the range of early symptoms at the beginning of August 2019.



Figure 3: Early symptoms of cercospora



EVENTS

We will shortly be opening the bookings portal for Autumn Demo Farm events. Provisional plan for the following:

11th Sept 8:30 – 11:30 Bury Growers
 11th Sept 13:30 – 16:30 Cantley Growers
 26th Sept 8:30 – 11:30 Wissington Growers



CONTACTS

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