



Issued: 4th August 2020



IN BRIEF

- Whilst some crops remain relatively free of virus, there are fields that continue to show progressive virus symptoms. In many cases, Beet yellows virus, Beet mild yellowing virus and Beet mosaic virus can be found in the same field. Crops will now have mature plant resistance which will help to reduce further virus infection, but existing virus infection will remain within plants.
- New leaf growth, and flushes of growth after periods of rain will occur, but as the virus is systemic within the plant, this growth is likely to become infected. Symptoms will continue to develop throughout August.
- It is important to protect green crop canopies to maximise light interception during the rest of the season. Many crops have received their first fungicide. If you have not started your fungicide programme you need to check crops now.
- Powdery mildew, which is favoured by high temperature and when accompanied by dew at night, is being found in many crops. However, any wet weather will encourage development of rust and cercospora leaf spot.
- Bolters and weed beet are established in many crops and need managing. Most will have been pollinated and have set seed by now and should be removed from the field to avoid seed return to the soil.
- Programmes should be maintained in line with the eight-point plan below.

Foliage diseases



Early rust and powdery mildew (white fungal growth). Do not let powdery mildew get advanced before applying a fungicide.

Eight-point plan for autumn disease management.

1. Know what disease(s) are in your crop in order to select the best fungicide options.
2. Cercospora leaf spot appears to be an increasing problem in the UK and strains of this fungus are potentially resistant (due to QoI resistance) to strobilurin fungicides. If in doubt contact the BBRO for help with disease identification.
3. As seen from previous BBRO trials, do not apply fungicides too early, wait for early symptoms to show.
4. Conversely, do not apply products too late otherwise effective disease control will be difficult for the remainder of the season.
5. Always follow label recommendations for applying products at the correct growth stage.
6. 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.
7. Ensure water volume recommendations are adhered to and are not cut back.
8. Know where specific varieties are sown within fields to monitor any variety- disease interactions.



EVENTS

Event plan to be released shortly.



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BASIS POINTS

Two BASIS points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated for the period between 01/06/20 and 31/05/21 reference **CP/100686/2021/g**. To claim these points please email michele@basis-reg.co.uk

City and Guilds are currently closed due to Covid19. NRoSO points will be made available as soon as possible.