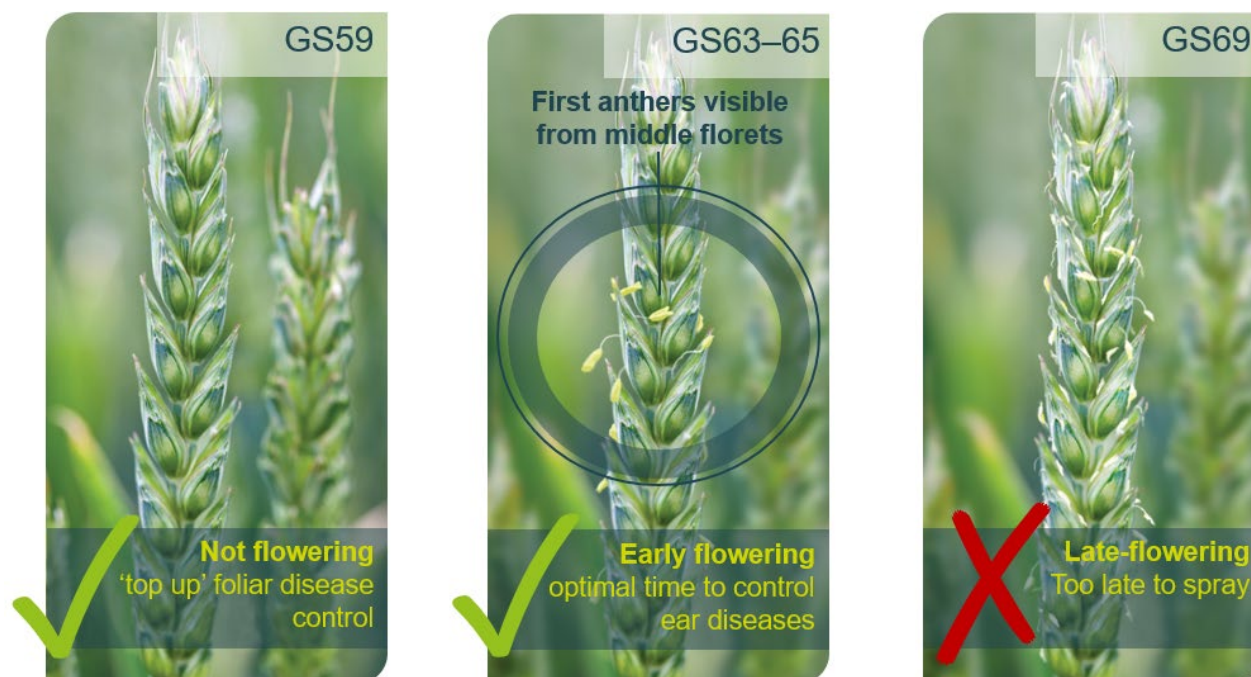


Timing T3 sprays in winter wheat

A T3 fungicide spray can help 'top-up' foliar disease control or control fusarium and microdochium species that cause the ear disease head blight. The disease target alters the optimum time for the T3 spray.



Foliar disease control

If foliar disease control needs a top up, an early T3 spray can help maximise canopy size and duration. **GS59 is considered optimum**. This is when the ear has completely emerged above the flag leaf ligule but before flowering starts.

Ear disease control

The flowering period starts at GS61 and finishes at GS69. It lasts about a week. For the management of ear diseases, sprays should be applied just before the crop is at the highest risk of infection. **GS63 to GS65 is considered optimum**. This is when the ear has extended up from the flag leaf and the first anthers are visible from the middle florets. The window for control is narrow. As infection occurs via anthers, sprays should not be applied before they are out. Dry weather dramatically reduces infection risk and the need to spray.

Too late for disease control

By late-flowering (**GS69**), all anthers have been produced, with many dry, light-coloured and falling off. If it is not possible to spray by GS65 (e.g. due to wet weather), an application should be made as soon as possible after, as control levels rapidly decrease for each day's delay.

Further information on fungicide performance, as well as disease management, can be accessed via ahdb.org.uk/fungicide-performance