

Malmesbury Monitor Farm meeting report

Fungicide strategies for 2019 and beyond

Speakers: Dr Jonathan Blake (ADAS)

Date: 4 March 2019

Location: Mayfield House Hotel, Crudwell, SN16 9EW

For more information, visit: cereals.ahdb.org.uk/malmesbury



Meeting summary – key messages

- Regularly crop walk to identify disease risks to direct fungicide management
- Variety choice is a key component to effective disease management
- Monitoring the crop and timing the spray accordingly is essential
- Using multisite products produces a synergetic effect

Non-chemical control

- Non-chemistry decisions can have more of an effect on disease control than product choice or choices
- Between 2002 and 2018, across all Recommended List varieties, there is an average 2t/ha response to fungicide programme between treated and untreated. This however masks a massive variation. Variety choice is key to a cost-effective fungicide programme or strategies to reduce use of fungicides.
- Conditions can sometimes have more impact than variety so it's key to build your programme on a case by case basis (field aspect, soil, variety, sow date, seed rate, weather pattern, crop condition)
- Regularly crop walking can help identify disease risks which can in turn direct fungicide management, monitoring tools are available at cereals.ahdb.org.uk/monitoring

Spray programmes

- In building a spray programme, determine whether you want to follow and pay for a preventative or curative (or happy for both) strategy. How efficient are you at timeliness – both monitoring crops and then spraying them?
- A traditional half dose of SDHI /Azole mix is not nearly as effective as it used to be. A full dose now required
- Mixing multisite products produces a synergetic effect $1+1 = 2.32$. This may be a strategy for the future

- Lower cost 2 spray strategy – only for lower value, later sown crops where critical timeliness can be achieved. Aim to keep the upper 3 leaves clean. Remember you are balancing yield with margin

Find out more – Links to AHDB information sheets or research

[AHDB Recommended Lists for cereals and oilseeds](#)

[Fungicide performance for wheat, barley and oilseed rape](#)

Disease monitoring and forecasting tools are available at cereals.ahdb.org.uk/monitoring

Next meeting

Date: 25 June 2019

Topic: Summer meeting

For more information contact: Philip Dolbear

E: philip.dolbear@ahdb.org.uk

M: 07964 255614

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