

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs





Integrated Pest Management: Science and Practice Disease control in cereals

Neil Paveley and Frank van den Bosch

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How to delay and slow epidemics?





Septoria tritici blotch

Yellow rust

How to delay and slow epidemics?





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Pathogen life cycle





*R*o: basic reproductive number:

Number of daughter lesions produced by 1 latent lesion (when not competing for leaf area)

Generation time:

Time for infection cycle from lesion to lesion

 $\mathbf{R_0} = \begin{bmatrix} probability \ to \\ survive \ to \ the \\ infectious \ stage \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} number \ of \\ spores \\ produced \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} probability \ that \\ a \ spore \ lands \\ on \ a \ leaf \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} Infection \\ efficiency \end{bmatrix}$

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Epidemic growth

*R*o: the basic reproductive number *R*₀>1 an epidemic develops *R*0<1 no epidemic develops

Start with So lesions:

First generation: Second generation: Third generation:

Etc. etc.



2000

1500



 $S_0 \times R_0 \times R_0 \times R_0$

 $S_0 \times R_0 \times R_0$

Reducing initial inoculum to delay epidemic – yellow rust



Source: Young et al. (2003) Plant Pathology

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Exponential rate of epidemic growth





r: rate of epidemic growth
r depends on R₀ and
pathogen generation time

$$r \approx \frac{\ln(R_0)}{p+i}$$

p: latent period*i*: infectious period

Disease carrying capacity – yellow rust





Source: Neumann et al. (2004) Plant Pathology

Matching control options to the disease



Septoria tritici



- Necrotrophic pathogen kills leaf area before producing spores
- Survives crop free period on stubble/dead plant material
- Efficient dispersal of ascospore initial inoculum
- Nitrogen content of the leaf has small effect

Yellow rust



- Biotrophic pathogen lives on live leaf tissue
- Needs a 'green bridge' between seasons
- Inefficient long-distance dispersal
- Efficient short-distance dispersal (<1m)
- Nitrogen content of the leaf affects carrying capacity

Matching control options to the disease



		Septoria	Yellow rust
Reduce initial inoculum	Crop rotation	No	Yes
	Stubble management	Maybe	Yes
	Variety 'seedling' resistance	No	Yes
Reduce epidemic growth rate	Variety resistance	Yes	Yes
	Fungicides	Yes	Yes
Reduce carrying capacity	Reduce nitrogen fertiliser	No	Maybe



- Epidemics most effectively controlled by <u>a combination of</u>:
 - Reducing initial inoculum (delay epidemic)
 - Reducing epidemic growth rate (slow epidemic)
 - Reducing disease carrying capacity (limit epidemic)
- Match the control options to the pathogen
- Control methods will be covered in more detail in later videos

Further reading



Guides

AHDB Wheat and barley disease management guide. https://ahdb.org.uk/knowledge-library/integrated-pest-management-ipm-of-cereal-diseases

Books

Madden, L.V., Hughes, G. & van den Bosch, F. (2007). The Study of Plant Disease Epidemics APS Press.

Parker, S R, Lovell, D J, Royle, D J and Paveley, N D (1999). Analysing epidemics of *Septoria tritici* for improved estimates of disease risk. In: *Septoria on cereals: a study of pathosystems.* Eds. Lucas J.A., Bowyer P. and Anderson H.M., 96-107.

Research papers by the authors on the theme of this video.

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- Audsley, E, Milne, A, Paveley, N D (2005). A foliar disease model for use in wheat disease management decision support systems. *Annals of Applied Biology.* **147**, 161-172 Neumann, S, Paveley, N P,Sylvester-Bradley, R, Beed, F, (2004). Nitrogen affects the capacity of wheat to carry epidemics of *Puccinia striiformis* f.sp. *tritici. Plant Pathology* **53**, 725-732.
- Young, C S, Paveley, N D, Vaughan, T B., Thomas, J M and Lockley, K D. (2003). Predicting epidemics of yellow rust (*Puccinia striiformis*) on the upper canopy of wheat from disease observations on lower leaves. *Plant Pathology* **52**, 338-349
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