Southwest MN IPM STUFF
All the pestilence that’s fit to print

SW Minnesota IPM STUFF 2013- ALERT
06/20/13

If you would like to be added to this mailing list, send a request to Molly Werner at werne022@umn.edu. This newsletter and the advice herein are free. You usually get what you pay for.

ENGLISH GRAIN APHID POPULATIONS ON WHEAT AND OATS ABOVE THRESHOLD IN SW MINNESOTA. BARLEY YELLOW DWARF SYMPTOMS PREVALENT.

Mark Bernard commented on a large number of aphids in a spring wheat field in SC Minnesota. Today, I checked our variety trials at the Southwest Research and Outreach Center at Lamberton. Definitely some of the highest populations of English grain aphids I have seen for a long, long time.

Areas with 100% of joint to boot stage wheat plants infested with up to 50 aphids per stem were common. Oats and wheat were both infested.

The bad news is the rapid onset and prevalence of Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV) symptoms. This disease is transmitted by aphids. Yellowing and reddening of leaves on wheat and a reddish tint to oat leaves are symptomatic. These symptoms may
be accompanied by stunting and/or yield loss. Early infections often lead to greater yield losses.

I could be worth your the effort to check small grains. The economic threshold for English grain aphids in small grains is 85% stems infested prior to heading. Aphids can be in pockets so scout the field thoroughly before making a treatment decision.

Controlling aphids will not control BYDV in already infected plants but can prevent further spread of the disease. Revenge spraying is futile.

Insecticides labeled for control vary in performance against several aphid species attacking small grains. Read the insecticide label.

Scout early and scout often.

Happy trails,

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