

Wheat Disease Update – 12 June 2019

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This likely is the last disease update from Oklahoma as harvest has started in southern OK and wheat is quickly turning or has turned across northern OK, northwestern OK and the panhandle.

Over the last 10 days or so, several samples from the panhandle and northwestern OK tested positive for wheat curl mite-transmitted virus diseases including wheat streak mosaic, high plains disease and Triticum mosaic. These samples, which tested positive for either *Wheat streak mosaic virus* alone or in combination with one or both of the other viruses, were not as severe or widespread as in previous years. For more information on these mite-transmitted viruses, see EPP 7328 (Wheat streak mosaic, high plains disease and Triticum mosaic: Three virus diseases of wheat in Oklahoma) available at <http://pods.dasnr.okstate.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-8987/EPP-7328.pdf>

Also reported last week was an increasing incidence of white heads across northwestern OK and the panhandle. We have not received many samples to diagnose, but there are multiple potential causes to the white heads. A few samples we have received and field reports have indicated that Fusarium root rot (5-24-2019 update available at <http://entopl.okstate.edu/pddl/advisory.htm>) definitely is active across the state. Other contributors could be freeze, Fusarium head blight (see 5-16-2019 update available at <http://entopl.okstate.edu/pddl/advisory.htm>), and flooded fields. Here is a link to an article composed jointly by KSU and OSU extension personnel that discusses the effects of excessive rainfall on wheat in Oklahoma and Kansas: https://webapp.agron.ksu.edu/agr_social/article/can-excessive-rainfall-prematurely-kill-the-wheat-crop-in-parts-of-kansas-and-oklahoma-337-4. A final disease that may make an appearance is sooty mold, which also was described and discussed in my last update (5-31-2019 available at <http://entopl.okstate.edu/pddl/advisory.htm>).

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