

Stripe Rust Alert  
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I found stripe rust in two fields in south east Idaho on April 4, 2016. The first location was south of Aberdeen in a field of commercial wheat (Brundage).

The second location between American Falls and Pocatello was in a field of volunteer wheat (also Brundage) where stripe rust was found in November, 2015.

A report came in from CPS that a field of Brundage east of Wendell, ID, also has stripe rust (thank you Chris!!!)

From the symptoms, location on the lower leaves, and as one of the locations had confirmed stripe rust prior to the onset of winter, the existing stripe rust has overwintered from fall infections.

I highly recommend that anyone with a field of Brundage examine it closely for stripe rust, looking especially at lower leaves that could have been infected last fall. Snow cover protects wheat *as well as the stripe rust* from freezing temperatures. Fields that have been under snow will serve as good reservoirs for stripe rust to carry into our spring wheat.

All susceptible varieties should be scouted weekly from now on. Please report infected fields (the approximate location) and send pictures so I can keep alerts updated as the season progresses (jmarshall@uidaho.edu). This helps everyone!

Strobilurin fungicides are excellent preventative fungicides, as are triazoles. Triazoles (or triazole and strobilurin mixes) are more effective if there is a field with established infections. The attached table is (not a complete) list of fungicides put together by a group of pathologists belonging to the NCERA-184, with ratings for degree of control of several wheat diseases.

At this point:

- 1) Spray fungicides at herbicide timing on **susceptible** varieties of winter wheat.
- 2) Select resistant spring varieties, if possible.
- 3) Be prepared to spray susceptible winter and spring varieties as needed to protect from yield loss - this may be two or more applications of fungicides during the growing season.
- 4) Scout ALL varieties as there are sometimes changes in the fungal strains, and those varieties that are currently resistant may become susceptible if there are race changes in the fungi.

The use of resistant varieties is the most sustainable and economically viable method of stripe rust control. Breeders work hard to develop resistant varieties in order to help growers save input costs. It is not necessary to spray resistant varieties – in fact, not spraying resistant varieties will contribute to longer-term effectiveness of available fungicides.

**The symptoms may not look like the typical long yellow-orange stripes that you see later in the season, but will look more like this:**

