



Scerotinia - Canola

Occurrence and management:

- **Present across Prairies affecting broad-leaved crops/weeds**
- **Yield loss is largely related to the extent of disease development in lower stem and main branch tissues**
- **Difficult to manage and to forecast risk and fungicide need. Use available risk assessment tools**

Symptoms Occur On:

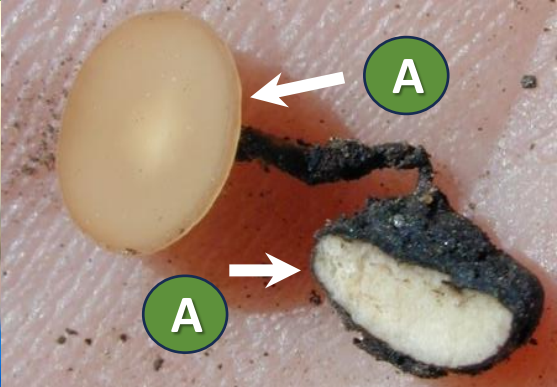
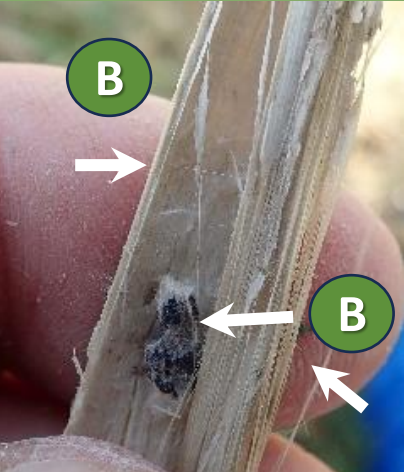
- **Leaves, leaf axils/bases/petioles, stems, branches, & pods**
- **Infection requires petals as a food source**

Initial symptoms:

- **Occur after flowering starts**
- **Start out as water-soaked areas where infected petals had adhered to leaf and associated tissues**

Mature Symptoms:

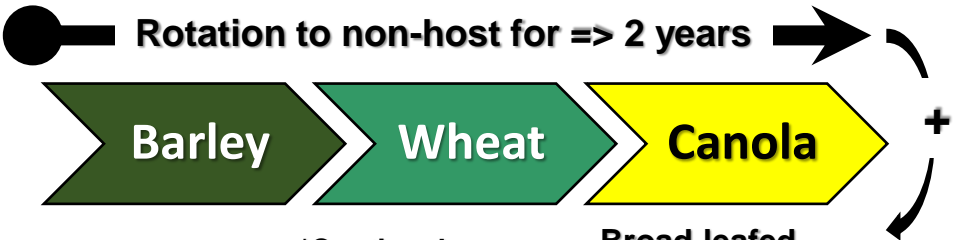
- **Bleached whitish/light grey areas that dry and become brittle and shred easily (B-C)**
- **Pith tissue is destroyed, leaving affected stems hollow (D)**
- **Eventually hard black structures (sclerotia) form within or on infected tissues. Apothecia (golf tee shaped structures) produced from sclerotia (A, B, C)**
- **Will cause increased lodging**



Infected (L)
Healthy (R)



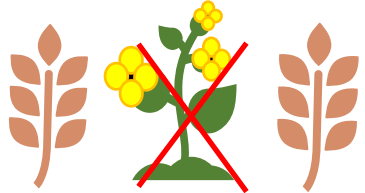
Sclerotinia stem rot of Canola: Key Management Strategies



“Resistant” varieties*

*Continual improvements are being made, but current varieties listed as “R” may still need a fungicide when stem rot risk is moderate to high

Broad-leaved volunteer/weed control



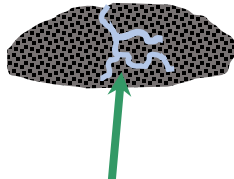
Foliar fungicide**



Canopy during flowering

**Use risk assessment tools to determine the need to spray and the most appropriate timing

Soil application of the Contans® biocontrol fungus that attacks sclerotia***



Contans® fungus attacking a sclerotial body (sclerotia)

***Limited use currently. May need more widespread adoption to manage spores coming from sclerotia/apothecia in adjacent fields



**PRAIRIE CROP DISEASE
MONITORING NETWORK**



Thank you to the PCDMN Phase 2 Funders

