PRAIRIE CROP DISEASE
MONITORING NETWORK

Fusarium head blight of wheat

Occurrence and management:

- Historically an issue in the central-eastern Prairies
- Over the past 5-20 years *Fusarium graminearum* has occurred with increasing frequency and impact in central & western regions
- An integration of host resistance, rotation and timely fungicide application are critical to improve suppression of FHB symptoms, and associated grain downgrading and contamination with deoxynivalenol (DON)

Symptoms Occur On:

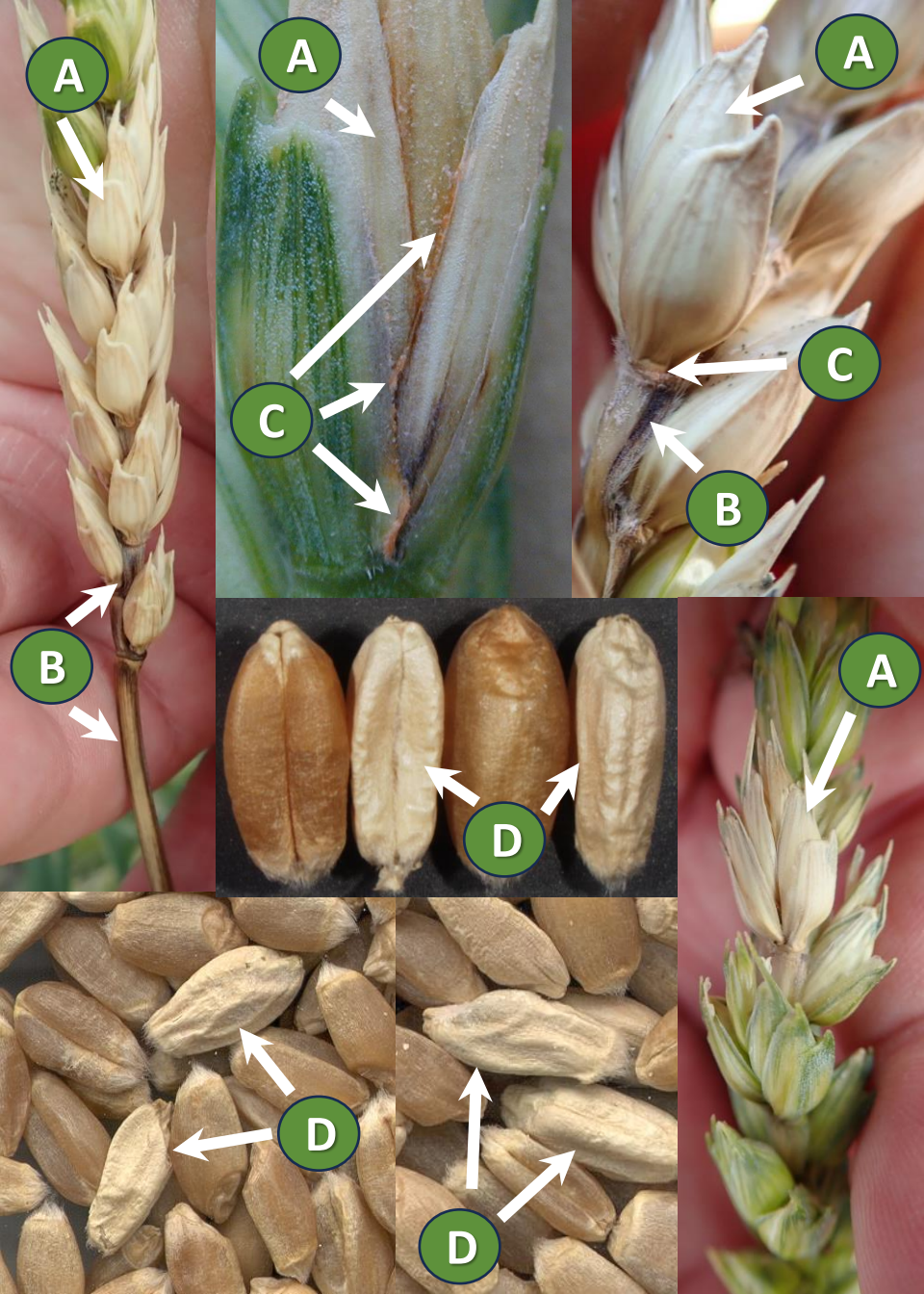
- Spikelet, spike (aka head) & grain tissues (A-D)

Initial symptoms:

- Premature ripening of affected head tissues (A)

Mature Symptoms:

- Premature ripening and bleaching (A)
- Brownish discolouration of the rachis and peduncle (B)
- Pinkish/orangish/salmon coloured sporulation or hyphal growth may occur (C, may be absent if conditions become drier following initial infection)
- Kernels are whitish/chalky in colour and shriveled (D)
- Grain may be contaminated with DON
  - Note laboratory test needed to confirm *Fusarium* spp. and DON


A
A
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Fusarium Head Blight of wheat: Key Management Strategies

Rotation to non-host for => 2 years

Wheat → **Canola** → **Field peas**

Resistant varieties*

*Resistance is not complete, and varieties will experience damage when FHB risk is high, although impact is less versus susceptible varieties

Seed Source**

**If *Fusarium graminearum* is a limited issue in your area then caution regarding seed is recommended. Where it is established, avoiding seed with high levels of infection and compromised germination is recommended

Seed treatment***

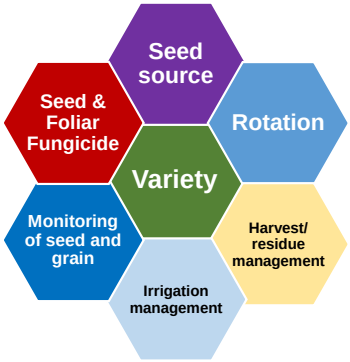
***Primarily to improve germination and stand establishment when infected seed is used

Volunteer control

Foliar fungicide

(angled dual nozzle set up)

Head tissues
(after full head emergence)



Use an integrated approach for FHB with multiple strategies

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Thank you to the PCDMN Phase 2 Funders

WGRF

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