



## Fusarium head blight - 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:

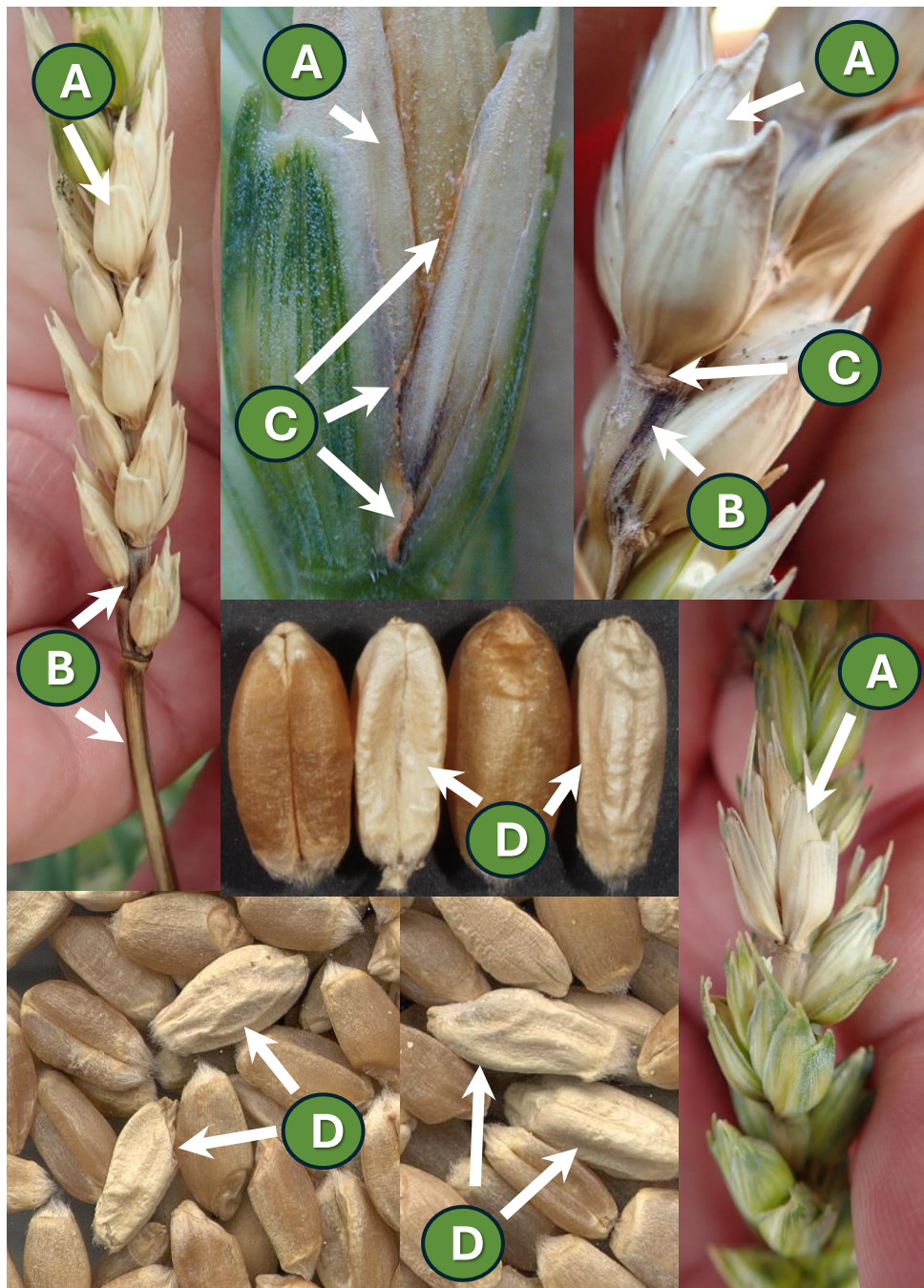
- Spikelet, spike (aka head) & grain tissues (A-D)

### 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





# Fusarium head blight of wheat: Management strategies

# Thank you to the PCDMN Phase 2 Funders

Rotation to non-host for => 2 years



**Resistant  
varieties\***

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



\*\*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



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

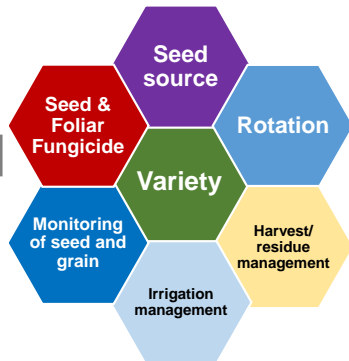
**Volunteer control**



**Foliar fungicide**  
(angled dual nozzle set up)



**Head tissues**  
(after full head emergence)



**Use an  
integrated  
approach  
for FHB  
with  
multiple  
strategies**

