



Update on Rusts in Small Grains in South Texas (April 14, 2010)

NOTE: The following update is from Dr. Amir Ibrahim, Small Grains Breeder and Geneticist, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas. He reports the following disease update for the Castroville, Texas area in south Texas.

Date: 14 April 2010

State: Texas

Location: Castroville, TX (Multi-state rust nursery)

Crops: Winter wheat, spring wheat, winter/facultative oat, and spring oat.

Diseases: wheat yellow rust (WYR, stripe rust), wheat leaf rust (WLR), wheat powdery mildew (WPMD), wheat stem rust (WSR), and oat crown rust (OCR).

The conditions at Castroville, TX (about 12 miles west of San Antonio) continue to be conducive to diseases, especially WYR. WYR has killed the entire leaf area of few highly susceptible genotypes such as TX05A001822. The nursery received about two inches of rain over the last 24 hours. Reliable WYR notes can be taken up to early next week, in my opinion, especially in early and medium maturing genotypes.

The Lr24 and Lr39/41 virulents are increasing in severity (> 60S). I expect WLR to intensify rapidly over the next 10 days. The presence of both WYR and WLR on the same leaf makes it difficult to estimate the severity of the latter. Our crews will be back in Castroville beginning April 24th for WLR and OCR notes and selections.

PMD is also heavy here. Lines such TAM W-101, are covered with it in the lower to mid-canopy.

OCR has established very well in the oat trials, populations, and head-rows. We should be able to take good notes on the AFRI lines. Notes on infection type and severity could be taken starting middle of next week and until end of April.

I have found WSR on both stem and flag leaf in a multitude of plants in a trap plot of McNair 701.

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