



Technical Update – Winter Wheat: T1 Fungicide Applications. Spring 2011

After the long winter of 2009/10 this year couldn't have been any more different. A cold snap in November, December and early January gave way to a mild and for many areas a very dry February and March.



This season there is more crop in the ground than we have seen for several years largely as result of the increased global demand for cereals and a poor global harvest, leading to spot prices increasing by around £100 / tonne in a 12 month period.

Recent weather patterns have given rise to higher levels of *Septoria tritici* and Yellow rust than we have seen for the last two years. Yellow rust has been active within leaves, but sporulation has begun, giving rise to the characteristic leaf symptoms. *Septoria* can be seen on older mostly dying leaves. It is spread by rain splash, infecting new plant growth and hence is of paramount importance to control.



Septoria tritici

The T1 application should go on at the emergence of final leaf 3, around GS32. As a cautionary note with this year's weather pattern it is possible that plants may go through the growth stages so quickly that a whole leaf may be missed. Hence what looks like final leaf 3, may in fact be leaf 2. Plants should be examined carefully to ensure that the important T1 application, at the appropriate dose, goes on at the optimum timing.

Epoxiconazole is the **best triazole** for the control of both *Septoria tritici* and yellow rust. Now in its third season Rubric was the first generic epoxiconazole to be launched in the UK market and is the market leader in generic epoxiconazole, offering growers a reliable, proven, cost effective option.

This year has seen a number of new products launched into the fungicide market, aimed into the T2 slot. Much of the supporting data will be based on low disease incidence. It is still essential therefore to maintain high levels of disease control at early timings to be absolutely sure these products perform to their optimum.

Within the market there is still the presence of 'parallel imported' material. Whereas it is true that some of these products are genuine parallel imports, there are products whose parentage is more questionable, and could be described as counterfeit materials. With cereal prices at near to record highs, and the potential to achieve high gross margins it is safer and more reliable to stick with a product whose provenance is known.



Yellow Rust

In all compatibility tests carried out with Rubric, in 2 and 3 way mixes over 2 seasons of commercial usage across Europe, all combinations have performed as expected. Rubric has gained a reputation for being extremely reliable in tank mix usage. Rubric has also proved to be at least as good in terms of *septoria tritici* control and yield, when compared to the market standard MAPP 1205.



Rubric label details are as follows:

Rubric contains 125g/litre epoxiconazole, as an SC

Crops:

Winter wheat, Spring wheat, Winter barley, Spring barley, Triticale, Rye, Oats

Dose:

Maximum Individual Dose: 1 l/ha

Maximum Total Dose: 2 l/ha

Latest timing:

Wheat, Rye, Triticale: Up to GS69

Barley, Oats: Up to GS59

Rubric is approved by the BBRA/BRI for use on malting Barley, pre-ear emergence.

Rates at T1 for Septoria and Yellow rust control in Winter Wheat:

Minimum 0.5 - ideally 0.75 l/ha Rubric + 1.0 l/ha chlorothalonil

Chlorothalonil is important at T1. It provides long-term disease protection splashing up onto new growth and will maintain that protection until the T2 treatment is applied at GS39.

If Yellow rust is active in the crop, which this year is very likely a quick knockdown of pustules may be required. Apply 0.25 l/ha Instinct mixed with the above. Additionally this will also give good control of any Wheat Mildew present at the time of application.

In summary a tank mix of:

0.5 – 0.75 l/ha Rubric + 1 l/ha Chlorothalonil + 0.25 l/ha Instinct will provide a robust and persistent treatment and help to keep your crop clean until an appropriately timed T2 application.

Rubric, apply with confidence and trust the proven results.

For further details and discussion, contact your local Headland representative, or:

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