

Media Release
Fungicide Resistance Group, CCDM
GGA
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Fungicide Resistance Research Needs You!

The Fungicide Resistance Group within the Centre for Crop and Disease Management (CCDM), are asking for your help by participating in this year's state wide 'crop sample collection drive'. The drive is being conducted in an effort to prevent fungicide resistance development in the field.

The Fungicide Resistance Group is constantly monitoring of fungal crop diseases at a national wide level, to look for any mutations within disease populations that may allow for fungicide resistance. The information they obtain from samples can be used to keep the wider industry informed on how best to avoid major outbreaks, and more importantly, how to incorporate additional disease control diversity to avoid resistance problems. This year the group is looking for growers, grower groups and agronomists to put up their hand to receive a crop disease sampling kit that can be returned to the centre free of cost, or alternatively, to allow the researchers to come to the field and collect samples.



Fungicide Resistance Group leader Fran Lopez says "Crop disease sampling has proven to be a success in detecting mutations that allow fungicide resistance. Recently a crop sample of net-form net blotch in barley, showed a rare mutation that allowed resistance to the triazole fungicide (DMI) tebuconazole. This sample was collected here in Western Australia. In monitoring crop disease in the field highlights the uprise of any rare mutations that will lead to fungicide resistance problems".

The researchers hope that enough information is generated from the samples to analyse the geographical distribution (by regions) of disease populations with fungicide resistance or a reduced sensitivity to fungicides. This information will be available to growers and sampling participants in the form of an annual report

Participating in crop disease sampling is free and easily accessible. All private information will be handled with confidentiality. The Fungicide Resistance Group is encouraging grower groups to get involved and to contact them if they would like a researcher to participate in their next meeting. The group is happy to talk about their research, the benefits that will be derived from your crop samples, and previous detections of mutations endowing fungicide resistance.

If you want to get involved, or you require more information, please contact the group via email frg@curtin.edu.au or phone: +61 8 9266 1204. Alternatively you can visit the CCDM website www.ccdm.com.au.

The group is currently targeting the following pathogens:

Ascochyta blight

Canola Blackleg

Net Blotches

Yellow / Tan spot

Septoria Nodorum Blotch

Powdery mildews

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Image Caption: CCDM group leader Fran Lopez hopes growers and grower groups can help him and his team detect mutations in crop disease populations, before disease management becomes a problem.

