U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative

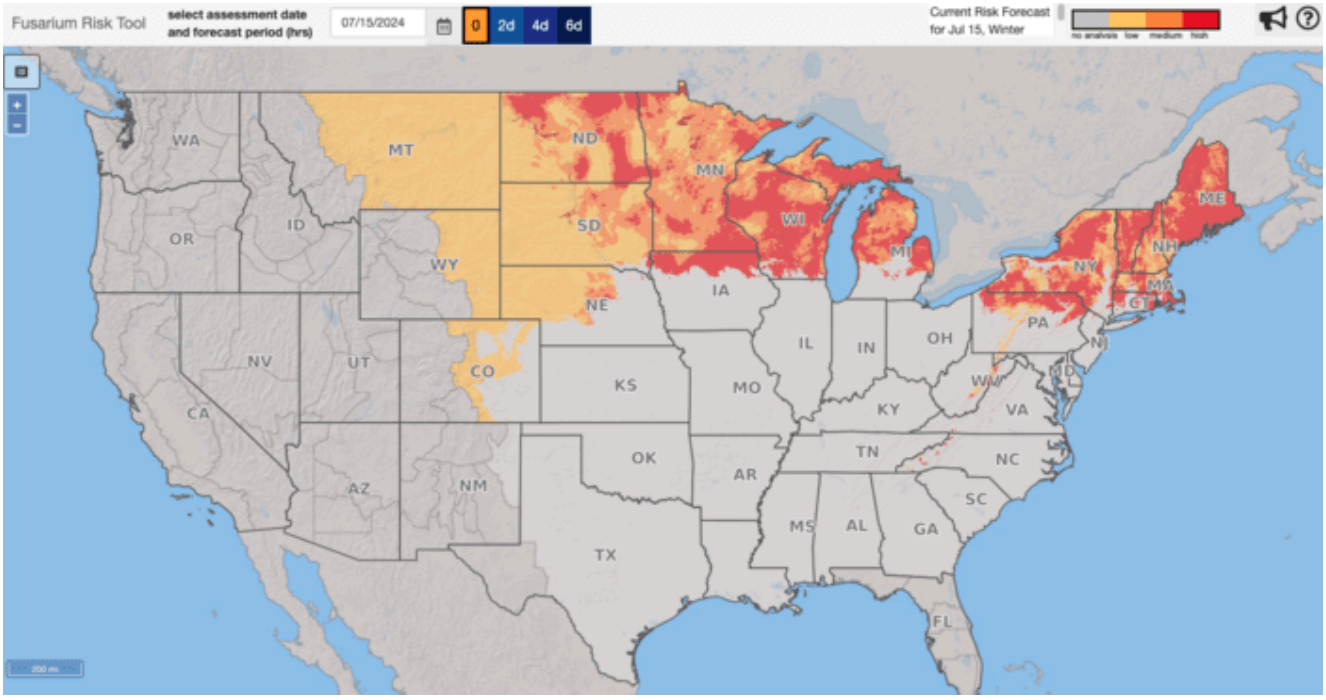
# FHB Tool Talk

Dear Extension Specialists, Crop Consultants, and Grower Organizations,

Spring wheat and durum are heading and flowering around the U.S. and it's important to make decisions on managing FHB. We asked two state extension specialists for some recent questions they have received regarding managing FHB in these cereals and here's what they had to say.

**The risk appears to be high in my area, should I spray twice for scab or just once?**
Research suggests that two applications using different fungicides will generally result in greater disease reduction in spring wheat and durum. However, in several studies one well timed application of a good fungicide was just as effective as two fungicide applications. Given the additional input costs associated with a second fungicide application, it may be best to apply a fungicide once during the seven-day application window (i.e. start of early flowering and up to seven days later). See the Fungicide Timing Postcards on the Communicators' Toolkit to correctly identify growth stages in spring wheat and durum.

**How should I classify durum varieties when using the FHB Risk Tool?**
The best durum varieties for scab resistance should be viewed as moderately susceptible when using the FHB Risk Tool. To change the susceptibility of your variety click the bulleted list icon button located in the top left corner of the map.




**I have two to three different growth stages in my field. When should I apply a fungicide for FHB?**
Our research efforts through the USWBSI have indicated that our best scab suppression application window begins at the start of early flowering and extends up to seven days later. For example, if 40% of your field is at early flowering today, 40% is at full-head, and 20% is at half-head, applying a fungicide in 3 to 5 days may be your best option. This will allow most of the heads to be within a fungicide application window to suppress FHB and DON, while protecting yield.

**If the rainy and mild temperature pattern continues through spring wheat flowering, should fungicides be applied?**
We encourage producers to use both crop growth stage and the scab modeling tool to determine risk as many areas of spring wheat are at low scab risk going into flowering.

**How do you determine the risk for FHB to moderately resistant spring wheat varieties grown in South Dakota?**
The SD Mesonet Small Grains Tool has integrated a risk rating for disease susceptibility levels in different cultivars. This can be combined with the FHB Risk Tool to have a well-rounded view of the need for scab prevention.

Want the most up-to-date information on FHB risk? Visit the USWBSI FHB Risk Tool and read all of this year's commentary on the FHB Alert Blog.

Special thanks to Andrew Friskop, North Dakota State University cereal crop extension plant pathologist, and Madalyn Shires, South Dakota State University extension plant pathologist, for providing the questions and answers in this issue.

Thank you for reading!

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