

MB Sunflower Crop Report

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Thursday, July 17, 2014

Staging

Sunflowers in the red river valley are nearing or are in the R-1 to R-3 stage. In the SW part of the province, V8 to V12.

Insects

Monitoring for banded sunflower moth continues and over the past two weeks, trap counts are nearing economical thresholds (RM of Dufferin and Woodlands). With the current staging of sunflowers in the RRV and if trap counts continue to climb, an insecticide application will be warranted. Traps will be monitored until the second week of August. Follow us on twitter for to update counts. (Table 1—Page 2)

Other insects to watch are bud moth, sunflower seed weevil, stem weevil, and lygus bug. (Figure 1) All these insects can affect seed quality, specifically in confections, and Canada Sunflower #1 standards are 2% insect damage. Continue to scout and monitor insect pressure.

Disease

As the crop continues to develop, it is also time to start watching for signs of disease. Rust and sclerotinia are the two of concern. I have recently found and confirmed the early stages of sunflower rust in the Elm Creek area. The aecial stage was observed on some of the lower leaves. The economical stage of rust is often observed within two weeks of the aecia. When scouting, look for small yellowing spots (Figure 2) on the top surface of the leaves, affected leaves on the underside will appear as a small cluster of orange cups as in Figure 3.

NOTE: There has been mention of tight supplies of sunflower fungicides available around the province. If you intend on applying a fungicide application, and as timing in nearing, be sure to talk to your local retailer to get product in place. Fungicides are generally applied at the R5.1– R5.4, however consult your label prior to application.

Registered Foliar Fungicide for Sunflowers

- ◆ Headline: Rust
- ◆ Vertisan: Suppression of rust and sclerotinia head rot
- ◆ Lance: Sclerotinia head rot and leaf spot
- ◆ Proline: Sclerotinia head rot

Photos

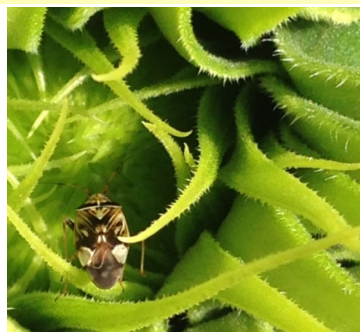


Figure 1. Adult lygus bug



Figure 2. Aecial Stage of Rust.
Look for yellow spot on top side of leaf.



Figure 3. Aecial Stage of Rust. Clusters of orange cups on the underside of the affected leaf.



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2014 BSM TRAP COUNTS

Location	Week	
	June 30 - July 7	July 8 - 14
Elgin	0	4
Cypress River	0	3
Carman	5	34
Morden	0	3
Gretna	0	7
St. Jean	0	3
Sanford	0	3
Dominion City	0	4
Marquette	0	43
Elm Creek	0	22

KEY	numbers
	0
Low	# 1 - 10
Medium	# 11 - 25
High	# 26 - 50
Very high	# 51 - 100
extreme	# 100 +