

Project Abstract

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| Project Title: | Assessment of Fungicide Sensitivity in Field Populations of Fusarium Causing FHB | |
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| Co-Investigator: | Alyssa Koehler | University of Delaware |

Control of FHB primarily relies upon the application of a demethylation inhibitor (DMI) fungicide at 50% flowering and the utilization of a FHB-resistant cultivar. Recently, fungicides labelled for control of FHB also contain fungicides in the succinate dehydrogenase (SDHI) class. Studies on the baseline sensitivity of *Fusarium* species causing FHB across the United States to SDHI fungicides and the DMI fungicides have not been conducted, though some research localized to particular geographies has been completed. *A national effort is needed to evaluate Fusarium species for resistance to SDHI and DMI fungicides to minimize risk and reduce losses resulting from fungicide resistance development.* The goals of this research are to identify differences in sensitivity to SDHI and DMI fungicides present between historical *Fusarium* isolates and those that have been exposed to new chemistries (eg., Miravis Ace, Prosaro Pro) as well as geographical differences in resistance that may exist.

The objectives of this research are:

- Objective 1. Establish centralized testing locations and protocols for fungicide sensitivity testing for *Fusarium* isolates as part of the USWBSI
- Objective 2. Develop baseline sensitivity and associated virulence of current and historic isolates of *Fusarium* to SDHI and DMI fungicides collected from FHB symptomatic wheat in US wheat production areas
- Objective 3. Place unique and/or valuable isolates into a national storage facility to facilitate collaboration between MGMT and PBG RACs

The research approaches to be utilized to accomplish the project goals within the period of proposed work include the establishment of two core fungicide resistance testing facilities (one at Michigan State University, one at University of Missouri) with standardized protocols where isolates will be collected, identified, mycelial plate assays and conidial germination assays will be conducted, and a greenhouse virulence assay will be completed. These methods will be based on previously published research methodologies and will be standardized across sites.