WHY FUNGICIDE?

SCOTT SCHAFFERT

UFA Customer Account Manager, Peace Country

1. **Why do you support spraying fungicide in canola and cereal crops?**

   A fungicide application is the last chance you have to preserve as much yield potential in your crop as possible. The long-term weather forecast is important to consider, but it's just one component of the disease triangle. The host and pathogen are just as important. The host is your crop, if you have a crop with good yield potential that means you have a susceptible host. The pathogen will almost always be present. Remember these pathogens have evolved over thousands of years to be there when conditions are right. So the decision often comes down to environment, or the long-term forecast.

   When considering the long-term forecast, what you're really doing is gauging the risk you are willing to take with your yield potential. Too often producers have regretted the decision not to spray a fungicide from the combine seat, because the weatherman is never wrong . . . right?

   One last note on fungicides: All the major manufacturers of fungicides have discounts available for qualifying producers. It is important to talk to your local CAM to maximize these programs and pencil out the ROI of these products designed to protect your yield potential.

2. **Key application tips?**

   Water, water, water!! Did I mention water? All of the fungicides on the market today rely on proper crop coverage. Unlike most in-crop sprays, fungicides are poor translocators within the plant. Proper fungicide timing occurs when the crop canopies are the densest. If you don't cover the vulnerable areas during this application you are forcing the fungicide to fight the pathogen with one arm tied behind its back.

   To get the best coverage with optimal performance, I recommend using the stated water volume at application.

3. **Which products do you recommend for your area?**

   In the Central Peace, our most common crop diseases are cereal leaf diseases, Ascochyta Blight Complex in peas and Sclerotinia in canola. As a result, I most often recommend products such as Folicur and Twinline for **cereals**, Delaro and Priaxor for **peas**, and Proline or Cotegra for **canola**.

   I am excited to see how some of the newer products such as Nexicor, Dyax, and Trivapro perform this year.

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CLAYTON SMITH

UFA Customer Account Manager, Vermilion and area

1. **Why do you support spraying fungicide in canola and cereal crops?**

   When it's time to spray fungicide, it is usually humid and that is a prime condition to start the spread of disease, especially in canola with Sclerotinia that is a huge yield robber for your canola.

   In your cereal crops I believe it is a must that you spray your cereals at optimal head timing when the first few flowers are visible. This timing can enhance your chances of securing your optimal amount of bushels per acre. Not spraying can further the problem of Fusarium Head Blight which can impact your yield and quality of seed.

2. **Key application tips?**

   Having the correct nozzles that can cover the vertical targets is a must when applying fungicide. Best time to apply is when the heads are emerged and flowering for optimal protection.

3. **Which products do you recommend for your area?**

   For **cereals** I recommend Prosaro and the new Prosaro XTR for the disease that seem to be persistent and always around, Prosaro XTR covers a wide range of disease cereals are susceptible too.

   Proline on **canola** is still the go to for spraying for Sclerontinia, super easy to spray and good window for application 20%-50% bloom.

   For our **pulse** acres - Delaro and Priaxor - both products have great control on disease and both have two active ingredients. I have seen trials where the bushels comparison to Delaro aren't even close. Delaro is our top recommendation for this area.

KEITH MUNRO

UFA Customer Account Manager, Airdrie and area

1. **Why do you support spraying fungicide in canola and cereal crops?**

   Spraying fungicide is the easiest way to show growers you're putting money in their pockets.

2. **Key Application Tips?**

   Don't cut your water rate and don't believe the myth; "you don't need fungicide when it's dry". Your percentage of higher quality and yield is higher when spraying fungicide when it is dry than a wet year.

WHY FUNGICIDE?

3. Which products do you recommend for your area?

My go to products are:

Canola	-	Proline
Pulses	-	Priaxor
Wheat	-	Prosaro, Prosaro XTR
Malt Barley	-	Trivapro
Feed Barley	-	Twinline

DAROLD NIWA. P.AG. CCSC

UFA Agronomic Specialist

1. When is it the right time to spray?

As crops capture sun in long days and growth becomes thicker and faster, timing of exactly when to execute becomes the debate. Here are some considerations:

When to execute:	Why:
Spray when plants have maximum biomass and vegetative growth	Because fungicides prevent disease, not eradicate, wait until ALL the plant factory is there to protect.
Spray fungicides BEFORE "row close"	Allows spray coverage on most sides of the individual plant to provide prevention
Spray crops when dry before wet weather or disease onset	Fungicide performance (i.e. days protection) will stretch in hot/dry conditions
Spray fungicides when the risk triangle (host, pathogen, environment) is a yield threat	Non-prophylactic use of fungicides reduces resistance selection pressure on pests
Spray crops with fungicide only before wet weather when risk of disease is high	Elevation of disease risk when warm and wet conditions
Spray fungicide as late as possible before disease to elongate the protection period	Fungicide protection disperses over time – may reduce to one app if risk turns low with hot/dry weather
Spray fungicides for their plant health benefits alone – stand ability increase speed of harvest as cost savings and higher returns	Application of some fungicides can increase plant metabolic rates/ photosynthetic efficiency and benefits yield in addition to disease mitigation
Spray when plants have maximum biomass and vegetative growth	Because fungicides prevent disease, not eradicate, wait until ALL the plant factory is there to protect.