

PI: Van Ee, Gary

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Project Title: Control Wheat Scab with Improved Fungicide Application Technology.

PI's E-mail: vanee@egr.msu.edu

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PROJECT 1 ABSTRACT

(1 Page Limit)

Standard, row-crop, boom spraying systems commonly used to apply herbicide and distribute plant nutrients have proven to be less effective than desired when applying fungicide to post-headed wheat for the control of FHB. It is commonly believed that the loss of efficacy is the result of inadequate deposition and lack of uniform coverage of the spray material in the grain heads.

The objective of this study is adapt low-volume, air-assisted, small-droplet, fruit spraying technology into a cost efficient, "proto-type" fungicide application system for the control of FHB in wheat.

1999, 2000, and 2001 field studies indicated equal or improved efficacy using a variety of modified fruit spraying technologies. Due to very low FHB pest pressure, the 2002 field studies showed no significant difference between any of the "checks" and "treatments".

2003 field studies will primarily focus on using both the horizontal air boom tested in 2002 and a horizontal, overhead boom with Proptec rotary atomizers on to spray "headed" wheat.