Project Abstract

Project Title:	Integrated management for Fusarium Head Blight in Illinois	
USWBSI Project ID:	FY24-IM-001	
Principal Investigator:	Santiago Mideros	University of Illinois

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Project Summary

Two of the main control strategies for Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) in wheat caused by Fusarium graminearum are quantitative resistance and fungicide use. There are two new fungicides on the market, Prosaro Pro and Sphaerex, that have been registered for use in wheat. It is important to test the efficiency of these fungicides on multiple wheat varieties with varying levels of resistance. This assessment will include a comparison of FHB and DON control to other fungicides that are already in use. The goal of this project is to complete an unbiased analysis of management methods in central Illinois that, combined with information from previous work of the IM-CP, will be used to generate recommendations for wheat producers. Specifically, the objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of integrated use of fungicide treatment and genetic resistance to control FHB and deoxynivalenol (DON) contamination in wheat. This will include a comparison of five different fungicides across four different wheat varieties, with a focus on two new combination fungicides. Stakeholders and farmers will benefit from this research because we will be identifying how two new fungicides compare to those that have been used regularly for FHB control. This will help farmers and agronomists determine the best fungicides to use in their operation. We will also be determining how these fungicides work alongside quantitative resistance which will provide more information to growers on the most efficient management strategies.

