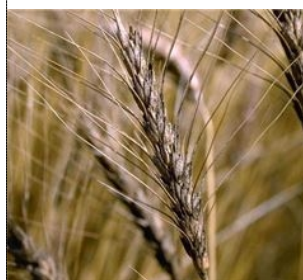


Wheat Head blight

Fusarium graminearum



Diseased spikelets versus non-infected crop (Brian Steffenson, University of Minnesota, Public Domain CC0).



Bleaching of wheat spikelets due to wheat blight (Howard F. Schwartz, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org).

Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control	Direct Control	Restrictions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant certified clean seeds from reputable seed companies and avoid recycling seeds from infected fields. Plant tolerant varieties such as Njoro BW1, Njoro BW2. Practice crop rotation using legume based crops. Select sites with good drainage and a good soil profile to avoid water logging. Deeply plough the soils to expose the inoculum to harsh conditions 3 to 4 months before planting. Avoid use of overhead irrigation, especially during cool and wet conditions. Avoid reuse of water for irrigation. Sow seeds in well prepared nursery and fertilized soils for good root growth and vigorous development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scout wheat farms during the flowering stage and high humidity levels for disease incidences. Check for light-straw and bleached spikelets. Look out for white/light brown color on wheat spikes. Look out for shrivelling and discolouration of kernels on the infected spikes. Towards the end of the season look for dark purple-black fruiting bodies on the infected spike. Consider direct control actions when symptoms are observed on 1-3 plants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uproot or prune infected plants and destroy by burning the infected debris. Sterilize farm tools with 10% sodium hypochloride or Jik while working in the wheat farm. Drain soggy or water logged soils to reduce humidity that enhance spread of the disease. Use Trichotech WP at 1.25 g/L water every 2 weeks to one month depending on disease pressure. Apply leaf extract of neem (Achook, Nembecidine) at 20 ml/20 L of water (maximum 3 times). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label. Do not use chemicals with the same mode of action year after year as this can lead to resistance. Always consult the most recent list of registered pesticides (PCPB). Spray tebuconazole and prothioconazole based products such as Provaro 250 EC (5 mls/20 L). Drench soil with carbendazim based products (Rodazim SC, pearl 500SC) before planting (Rate 15 to 20 ml/20 L water). Spray copper oxychloride such as cobox WP at the rate of 40-80 g per 20 L. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHO Class III (slightly hazardous). PHI: 35 days intervals, REI: 24 hrs. Repeat every 7-10 days for as long as needed. WHO Class III (slightly Hazardous). PHI: 14 days. Low toxicity on bees, do not allow entry into treated areas until the spray has dried up. Spray on the onset of the disease up to 42 days after planting. WHO Class II (moderately hazardous). PHI: 7 days.

Kenya

CREATED/UPDATED: Dec 2018/Dec 2020

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