



PROCAM
AGRONOMY THAT DELIVERS™

Technical Update
June '18

JUNE JOTTINGS

June is typically the month for the final agronomic inputs to combinable crops. Decisions made now can have a major impact on yield and crop quality.



After a slow start this spring, winter cereal crops have largely caught up and are generally at typical growth stages for the time of year. Many winter wheat crops have only just received their T2 or flag leaf fungicides in the latter part of May but already crops are ranging from breaking boot to full ear emergence. A T3 or ear fungicide needs to be applied at or just before flowering to effectively suppress the ear blight complex of diseases that can seriously affect yields, and more importantly grain quality. This does mean that the interval between the T2 & T3 can be as close as a few days depending on prevailing temperatures. Typically T3 is the last opportunity for major agronomic input to the wheat crop.

Most grain fill occurs post anthesis or flowering so maintaining a healthy crop canopy from ear emergence is critical to optimise yield performance. Grain fill occurs at a rate of approximately 0.2 t/ha per day. The ear alone contributes around 20% to total grain fill so keeping the crop healthy and disease free for as long as possible is clearly advantageous.

Wet weather and high humidity around the flowering period are key factors to encourage the ear blight complex of diseases. These largely fusarium species directly affect grain yield and quality, but more importantly produce toxic mycotoxins. High mycotoxin levels reduce quality and marketability. The only way of reducing the mycotoxin risk is through appropriate fungicide application.

Fungicides must be applied pre to early flowering for optimum efficacy. Triazole fungicides based on prothioconazole, tebuconazole, bromuconazole and metconazole are effective options – at a minimum 50% dose. In high disease pressure, and if yellow or brown rust is active, total fungicide loading will need to be increased.

Including an adjuvant such as Mica and/or phosphite growth promoters can enhance the activity of the ear fungicides. Make sure you give your crops the best cover to optimise grain-fill and grain quality this season.



Come to our
Open Day
20th June 2018

The ProCam Ag team would like to invite you to join us at our trials demonstration site at Fowlmere on 20th June. We'll give you a tour of our **Agronomy that Delivers™** trials programme including:

- ✓ Are you making the most of your varieties?
ProCam, KWS, North Herts Farmers
- ✓ Managing grain storage
Bayer Crop Science
- ✓ Minimising combining losses
New Holland
- ✓ Cover and forage crop plus stewardship mix options
ProCam Field Options
- ✓ BBQ lunch and ice cream!

If you would like to attend this event please email agevents@ProCam.co.uk or phone the ProCam office on 01763 261592

WINTER OSR

HARVEST AID 2018



Oilseed rape crops are now well into the post-flowering, pod-fill stage. The use of pod sealants as crops start to ripen will help optimise seed recovery and yield at harvest. Pod sealants such as Mesh have been typically demonstrated to improve seed gain by around 400 kg/ha. Improvements in seed return of this order were found even in trials with anti-pod shatter varieties.

Mesh is a mixture of styrene and butadiene polymers whose droplets coalesce as they dry to form a film on the pods. The target for the pod sealant is the top pod seam where the droplet tacks across/along this seam giving it added strength. Mesh is designed to be very flexible to cope with natural pod expansion and contraction. The best seed saving time for the application of Mesh is as soon as the pods reach full size and are still green and pliable. Trials by DeSangosse have shown that pod shatter losses were reduced by 12% when the timing of the pod sealant was brought forward by 3 weeks to the optimum standalone timing. Mesh dries quickly on the pods after application and is effective for up to 12 weeks. Mesh can also be used on pulses, especially beans where the range of pod and seed maturity can be very variable. Talk to your ProCam Agronomist about the optimum Mesh timing for your crops.

WINTER WHEAT

INSECT PESTS 2018



Orange wheat blossom midge adults are being found in the suction traps operated by Rothamsted. This is an indication that pupation and adult emergence has started in many parts of the UK. Many varieties now have resistance to OWBM but a number of key varieties do not (e.g. Crusoe, KWS Zyatt, Trinity, Lili and JB Diego) and could be at risk. OWBM can also cause problems in spring wheat varieties. Air temperatures above 15°C after adults hatch are needed for them to fly and lay eggs. Eggs are laid on emerged ears, before flowering. Eggs hatch in 4-10 days, depending on temperature and the larvae move to a developing grain and feed for 2-3 weeks. Substantial loss of yield and quality can result - especially in milling varieties. Crops are at risk from the start of ear emergence until the majority of ears are flowering. Check with your ProCam Agronomist for the latest OWBM risk assessment and, if required, any appropriate insecticide options.

SPRING BARLEY

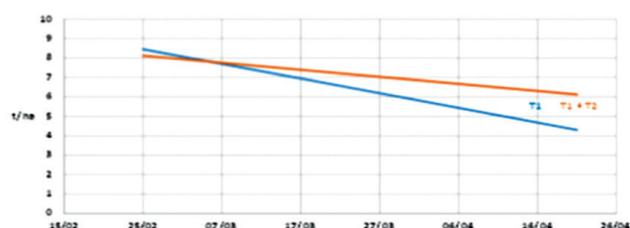
T2 FUNGICIDES



Earlier sown crops of spring barley are reaching GS39 - flag leaf emerged in the first part of June. Many later crops drilled through April are growing rapidly and will be not too far behind. As flag leaves and awns emerge decisions will need to be made on the need for late growth regulators and fungicides. Disease risk is variable but in most years there is value in applying a flag leaf or T2 fungicide to spring barley, irrespective of when it was sown.

Sp Barley Interaction of Drill Date and Fungicide

ProCam 4Cast



ProCam's 4Cast system, an analysis of actual farm data, has consistently shown that spring barley crops receiving at least 2 fungicide applications produce significantly improved yields over crops with a single T1 application. This trend was maintained even with later sown crops. Ramularia can be a late season threat to winter and spring barley, especially in wetter seasons. Any T2 fungicide application should include a multisite inhibitor (e.g. chlorothalonil) for reliable effect on Ramularia.

SPRING BEANS

INSECT PESTS 2018



Spring beans, even where late sown, are developing rapidly and will soon be flowering and setting pods, requiring a focus on bruchid beetle; the larvae of which can seriously damage bean quality. Adult females fly to beans during flowering and lay eggs on developing pods. The larvae bore through the pod and into the seed where they feed until mature. An insecticide approved for use during flowering should be applied using angled nozzles at early pod set following 2 consecutive days when the maximum daily temperature has reached 20°C and repeated 7-10 days later. Traditionally control has relied on the pyrethroid group of insecticides. This year there is another option, thiacloprid, as Biscaya now has approval for use on beans for bruchid beetle. Forecasts for optimum spray timing can be obtained from your ProCam Agronomist and the Syngenta Bruchidcast at: www.syngenta.co.uk/BruchidCast