Partnership for Profit

SYNGENTA WHEAT TECHNICAL UPDATE MAY 2010

Winter wheat: managing T3 diseases for yield, quality and mycotoxin risk

In brief:

Mycotoxin management is important at T3 but the timing isn't only about mycotoxins

With margins tight, high yields and high quality are also crucial – with as many as 25 times more Group 1 wheat samples having been rejected for specific weight than mycotoxins in the past

Septoria, rusts and *Microdochium* can all reduce yield and grain-filling, while 'sooty' grains can put buyers off. So T3 fungicides should cover all risks

AMISTAR is well-proven for increasing yield and quality at T3, and producing brighter and bolder grain

AMISTAR OPTI at T3 offers even more yield protection against *Septoria tritici* and *Microdochium* from having BRAVO also built in

With the importance of late-season green leaf area for maximum grain-filling, adding AMISTAR to a triazole increased farm yields* by an average of 0.21 t/ha last season – and by as much as 0.95 t/ha

* Yield differences in 10 split-field comparisons, 2009

Core recommendation:

T3 ~ AMISTAR OPTI 0.75–1.0 l/ha + Fusarium-active triazole

- Longer lasting protection – in the crucial run up to harvest
- Broad spectrum disease control plus greening
- Extra quality and yield from the use of AMISTAR
- AMISTAR OPTI provides a high dose of AMISTAR with BRAVO – for flexibility in Fusarium-active triazole choice

Apply at correct time with correct nozzles and with triazole at correct dose

Testing of a Fusarium-active triazole showed correct spray timing is essential against mycotoxins. The greatest reduction in DON occurred when applied at the start of flowering – even this achieved less than a 50% reduction.

Responding to this year's late season disease risks

With 10 or so weeks between T3 sprays and harvest, maximising grain-fill by keeping ears and flag leaves clean and green is crucial. Together, they contribute almost two thirds to yield.

Whilst rusts are set to be a problem this season, *Microdochium* remains one of the UK's most common UK ear diseases. Topping up *Septoria tritici* control is also a target at this timing and with concerns about sensitivity to triazoles it makes sense to include chlorothalonil.

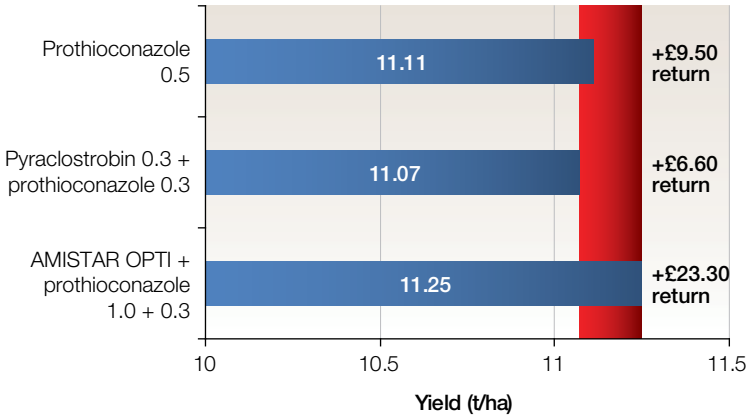
These are the reasons why AMISTAR OPTI + triazole is recommended this year.

While a Fusarium-active triazole is important, the AMISTAR in AMISTAR OPTI provides further long-lasting activity against yield and quality-robbing rusts, *Septoria nodorum* and other ear diseases – and has been shown to extend greening by four to five days. Each extra day of green leaf area can boost yield by 0.15–0.2 t/ha and specific weight by 0.2 kg/hl. Its BRAVO element fortifies this with extra activity against *Septoria tritici*, *Microdochium* and sooty moulds.

AMISTAR OPTI + prothioconazole is the core recommendation. However, with the robustness of the BRAVO element for *Septoria tritici* control, other Fusarium-active triazoles could be considered (e.g., metconazole or tebuconazole).

Turn over to find out more >

AMISTAR OPTI extra yield and margin



Yield data: TAG 2009

Application: GS59–61, standard treatments at T1 and T2

Extra yield from AMISTAR Nozzles

Designed to complement the systemic properties of AMISTAR. AMISTAR Nozzles play a key part in getting even more from T3 disease control, by putting more spray where it is needed and producing more even distribution on both sides of the ears.

Data from TAG Morley has shown an extra 1 t/ha when T3 AMISTAR + triazole was applied through AMISTAR Nozzles rather than flat fan nozzles. AMISTAR Nozzles also utilise air induction principles to reduce drift and are designed to operate at 100 l/ha.

Including AMISTAR OPTI at T3 gives visibly cleaner results

T3 is designed to protect the flag leaf and ears. With concerns about Septoria tritici sensitivity to triazoles, now is not the time to risk programmes breaking down. The addition of BRAVO in AMISTAR OPTI will guard against this.

Key tips:

- Don't risk lost yield, sample rejection or deductions
- Remember, it can be a long time before harvest (particularly in wet summers) and T3 is the final step to protect quality and yield
- Use a suitable Fusarium-active triazole to target mycotoxin risk but don't neglect other yield and quality losses
- Add AMISTAR OPTI to broaden spectrum and increase specific weight and yield – applied at GS59–65 (complete ear emergence to mid flowering). The addition of AMISTAR OPTI represents less than 1% of the total cost of growing the crop
- For orange wheat blossom midge, apply HALLMARK ZEON at 50 ml/ha according to threshold against adults (latest timing GS77 before late milk STAGE, maximum total dose 200 ml/ha per crop)

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