

Arrow Plus Seed Treatment

Targets Aphids and Fungal Pests



11 March 2011

BARLEY growers have access to a new seed treatment to protect their 2011 crop from important fungal diseases, as well as from aphid damage in the crop's early life, and from the spread of barley yellow dwarf virus.

Crop Care Australasia has released Arrow Plus® seed dressing with a combination of the fungicide flutriafol and the insecticide imidacloprid – for early-season control of barley leaf scald and powdery mildew; suppression of net-form net blotch; and control of covered smut and loose smut. It will also provide protection against feeding damage caused by wheat aphid and corn aphid, and prevention of the spread of barley yellow dwarf virus.

Crop Care Australasia seed treatment business manager Rob Walker said that Arrow Plus seed treatment provided growers with a time-saving, cost-effective and targeted method of controlling major barley pests and diseases, and the potential to eliminate or reduce the need for post-emergent insecticide and fungicide applications.

Insecticide action

Rob Walker: "The inclusion of imidacloprid in Arrow Plus protects the barley crop from wheat aphid and corn aphid feeding damage at the particularly vulnerable crop emergence and early establishment phase, when damage can significantly reduce final yield potential.

"Arrow Plus seed treatment provides immediate protection from these pests, and is especially beneficial if post-emergent applications are likely to be hindered by wet weather.

"By using Arrow Plus for aphid control, plants are also protected from the spread of barley yellow dwarf virus.

"Aphids are likely to be in more damaging numbers in winter cereals when the preceding summer/autumn season has been wet – as is the case in many of eastern Australia's broadacre cropping regions this year."

Mr Walker said Arrow Plus is a useful Integrated Pest Management tool, being translocated through new growth to control target pests, while leaving beneficial insects unaffected to assist with pest control.

Fungicide action

Seed-treatment is especially important on farmer-kept or traded seed, which may be carrying covered and loose smut, net-form net blotch and powdery mildew.

Flutriafol is one of the few fungicides to reach and disinfect the seed embryo, so is an excellent control for seed-borne diseases including smuts. Its systemic activity also means it is distributed throughout emerging seedlings.

Rob Walker: "Smuts can be the most devastating disease of cereals, with zero tolerance at receival centres. Smut spores germinate at the same time as the seed, infecting the seedlings as they emerge. A seed-applied fungicide is recognised as the cheapest, most effective way to control smut diseases.

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“As well as controlling smut, Arrow Plus will provide early-season control of barley leaf scald and powdery mildew – for up to 8 weeks after sowing, with some suppression thereafter.

“Controlling these important fungal diseases with Arrow Plus seed treatment may eliminate the need for post-emergent application of fungicides.

“Arrow Plus seed treatment will also suppress the significant fungal disease net-form net blotch.

“Seasons that are good for yield are also good for pests and diseases. Arrow Plus is an ideal way to protect the 2011 barley crop from the outset.”

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For More Information:

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