



Proceedings

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Poster Abstracts
Theme 5: Rust Surveillance

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Table of contents

Poster Abstracts

Rust Surveillance

Global Rust Reference Center: Perspectives and services M. S. Hovmøller, A. F. Justesen, S. Walter, P. Lassen and J. G. Hansen	207
The Wheat Rust Toolbox: Supporting the integration, management and dissemination of global wheat rust data J. G. Hansen, P. Lassen and D. Hodson	208
Rusts on <i>Berberis</i> spp. in Sweden* A. Berlin, I. Kyiashchenko, A. Djurle, B. Samils and J. Yuen	209
An update on barberry surveys in Pakistan J. I. Mirza, R. Ward, R. Qureshi, A. Rattu and M. Y. Mujahid	210
Recently identified races of <i>Puccinia triticina</i> on bread wheat in South Africa T. G. Terefe, Z. A. Pretorius and B. Visser	211
<i>Sr31</i> -virulent races of <i>Pgt</i> present in Tanzania I. L. Hale, I. Mamuya and D. Singh	212
Physiologic specialization of <i>Pgt</i> in Kenya in 2011 M. N. Rouse, R. Wanyera and Y. Jin.....	213
Status of wheat rusts in Ethiopia in the 2010 and 2011 cropping seasons G. Woldeab, B. Girma, B. Hundie, A. Badebo, B. Kassa, W. Denbel, Y. Ebabuye, T. Abebe, C. Wulita, H. Muluken, M. Negash, T. Hussein and T. Taye.....	214
Epidemics of stripe (yellow) rust on wheat and triticale in Ethiopia in 2010 G. Woldeab, F. Hondoro, B. Kassa, M. Negash, W. Denbel, N. Bacha, B. Hundie and B. Girma.....	215
Virulence analysis of <i>Pgt</i> populations in Iran during 2008-2010 M. Patpour, K. Nazari, A. El-Ahmed, A. Yahyaoui and F. Afshari	216
Virulence frequencies in the Iranian <i>P. triticina</i> population during 2009-10* S. T. Dadrezaei, E. M. Goltapeh, F. Afshari and K. Nazari	217
Identification of virulence factors in <i>Puccinia striiformis</i> f. sp. <i>tritici</i> in Iran in 2011* P. Pornamazeh, F. Afshari, M. Khodarahmi and M. Mohamadei	218
Epidemic and development of yellow rust on different wheat genotypes* A. Nori and E. Al-Maarroof	219
Effect of stripe (yellow) rust on grain yield of bread wheat cv. Sardari in dryland areas of Iran M. Roostaei, A. Qasemi, M. Hasanporhosni, R. Eslami, V. Fathi Rezaei, R. Dastbari, M. R. J. Kamali and M. Torabi	220

Occurrence and race analysis of wheat stem rust in Iraq E. Al-Maarouf, L. Szabo, K. Nazari, A. Naser, A. Razak, S. Fatteh, L. Amin, H. Hussien, N. Rasheed and M. Laiz	221
Status of stripe (yellow) rust in Syria in 2010-2011 R. El Amil, K. Nazari, C. de Vallavieille-Pope, S. Ali, A. Yahyaoui and M. Hovmøller	222
Distribution of wheat rusts in Azerbaijan K. Aslanova, K. Nazari, D. Hodson, M. Hovmøller and B. Hoffmann	223
Wheat rusts in Pakistan: Review and update A. R. Rattu, M. Fayyaz, J. I. Mirza, S. Asad, S. Iftikhar, K. A. Khanzada, M. Hussain, F. Muhammad Ch, F. Muhammad, A. H. Tariq, S. Ahmed, A. Baloch, J. A. Shah, M. Y. Mujahi and R. Ward.....	224
Race changes in <i>Puccinia</i> species occurring on wheat in India S. C. Bhardwaj, I. Sharma, R. Chatrath and O. P. Gangwar.....	225
Effect of climate and virulence changes on wheat rust epidemics in Nepal S. Sharma, D. B. Thapa, M. R. Bhatta, H. K. Manandhar, S. Baidya and A. K. Joshi.....	226
Wheat rusts in Bangladesh during 2011-12 P. K. Malaker, M. M. A. Reza, K. Mustarin, M. A. Hakim, B. K. Goswami, M. M. Rahman, N. C. D. Barma, M. M. Rahman, F. Ahmed, R. Islam and A. A. Khan.....	227
Effect of genetic and pathogenic variation in <i>Puccinia striiformis</i> on the epidemiology of yellow (stripe) rust in Sweden* K. Gillen, J. Yuen and M. S. Hovmøller.....	228
Physiological specialization in <i>Puccinia graminis tritici</i> on wheat in Argentina during 2009 and 2010 P. Campos and J. López	229
Physiological specialization of <i>Puccinia triticina</i> on wheat in Argentina in 2010 P. Campos and J. López	230
Some <i>Pgt</i> races detected in Uruguay after 1996 S. Germán	231
Geographical distribution and genetic diversity of wheat leaf rust in Iran in 2011* M. Farid, F. Afshari, M. Khodarahmei and M. Mohamadi.....	232

Wheat rusts in Pakistan: Review and update

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Wheat is the staple food crop in Pakistan and in 2012 will be harvested from over 8.5 million hectares. The Crop Disease Research Program, the National Coordinated Wheat Program, and various provincial and federal partners monitor rust pathogen populations in order to ensure farmers have access to resistant varieties. This poster will present rust survey results for the past two crop seasons and provide an overview of the institutional landscape of Pakistani efforts to understand wheat rusts and their impacts on production in Pakistan. All three rusts are found each year, with prevalence and threat levels varying with the geography. The nature and location of over-summering hosts that are sources of annual infections on wheat are not known, and the relationship between Pakistan's rust pathogen populations and those in other parts of the world remains uncertain. Although *Pgt* races of the Ug99 group have not been found in Pakistan, race RRTTF, with virulence to *Sr38*, has been found. No changes were seen in the *Pst* and *Pgt* populations in recent years, but there is evidence that the *Pt* population is adapting to the widely grown cv. Seher 2006.