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THE ROOT ROTS AND GRAIN DISEASE IN WHEAT

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The helminthosporium and fusarium root rot in the spring grain crops is observed every year but both the degree of the damage and the type of its manifestation vary according to the weather conditions. A study of the agricultural climatic conditions of the development and occurrence of the disease showed that the chief factor determining the intensity of the infection and manifestation of the disease is the moisture conditions in the soil in the period of the vegetation of the wheat plant. A generalization of the data on the moisture supply of the wheat made it possible to segregate five groups of regions with a different degree of the injuriousness of the root rot.

The following were laid down as the basis for the segregation of the zones (groups of regions): 1) the perennial supply of productive moisture in the one-meter layer of the soil in the period of the appearance of the disease with this supply characterizing the total moisture resources; 2) the ratio of the moisture supply in the arable layer of the soil in the period of the infection of the plants to the moisture content of the one-meter layer

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in the period of the disease manifestation with this ratio characterizing the dynamics of the moisture supply in the period of the development of the wheat.

On the basis of these indices, the probability was determined of the years with a moisture supply in the period of the disease manifestation lower than the "critical" limits (60 and 100 mm) at which conditions are created for an injurious manifestation of the disease (Table 1)

Table 1

THE PROBABILITY OF AN INTENSE MANIFESTATION OF ROOT ROT ON THE TERRITORY OF THE VIRGIN LANDS AND ADJACENT REGIONS

(1) Группа районов	(2) Многолетние запасы влаги в метровом слое почвы в период прояв- ления болезни (мм)	(4) Условный показатель динамики запаса влаги в почве	(7) Процент повторяемости возможного сильного проявления болезни
I	20-40	(5) Более 0,6	90
II	40-60	0,6-0,5	70
III	60-80	0,5-0,4	40
IV	80-100	0,4-0,3	20
V	(3) Выше 100	(6) Меньше 0,3	10

Key to Table 1: 1) The group of the regions; 2) perennial moisture supply in the one-meter layer of the soil in the period of disease manifestation (mm); 3) More than 100; 4) The reference index of the dynamics of the moisture supply in the soil; 5) More than 0.6; 6) Less than 0.3; 7) The percentage of the recurrence of a possible intense manifestation of the disease.

Among the group I regions are most of the regions of Saratovskaya, Volgogradskaya and Astrakhanskaya oblast, of the former East Kazakhstanskiy Kray, the southern regions of Kuybyshevskaya Oblast, the western, south-western and central regions of Orenburgskaya Oblast; among the group II regions are most of the regions of Tsclinnyy Kray, the steppe regions of Altayskiy Kray, eastern regions of Orenburgskaya Oblast, a number of regions of Saratovskaya, Kuybyshevskaya, Chelyabinskaya and Kurganskaya ob-

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lasts; among the group III regions are the northern regions of Kuybyshevskaya Oblast, the western and southern regions of Bashkir ASSR, most of the regions of Chelyabinskaya, Kurganskaya and North Kazakhstanskaya oblasts, the southern regions of Omskaya and Novosibirskaya oblasts, the eastern and southeastern regions of Altayskiy Kray, the northwestern regions of Krasnoyarskaya Oblast and the northern regions of Kokchetavskaya Oblast; among the group IV regions are most of the regions of Bashkir ASSR, the northern regions of Chelyabinskaya Oblast and the central regions of Omskaya, Novosibirskaya, Kemerovskaya and North Kazakhstanskaya oblasts; among the group V regions are the northern regions of the territory indicated.

In the regions of an insufficient or uncertain moistening, characterized by a reference index of the dynamics of the moisture supply in the soil of from 0.6 to 1.0 the fungus *Helminthosporium sativum* P. K. et B. causes the usual root rot. In the regions with a sufficient moistening or in the years with an excess of the average perennial amount of precipitation the fungus more often causes a grain disease of the "black embryo" type.

In 1964 a mass attack of the crops by root rots was observed in the south of Krasnoyarskiy Kray (Table 2) and in North Kazakhstanskaya Oblast (up to 70% of diseased plants).

In Irtyshskiy Kray the root rots appeared chiefly in the sprouts causing a thinning-out of the grass stand by 7%. In the period of the waxy stage of maturity of the grain the empty heads amounted here to 4%. A similar attack was observed in Chelyabinskaya, Kokchetavskaya and other oblasts of Western Siberia. In doing so, the hard wheats were affected

Table 2

THE ATTACK OF SPRING WHEAT BY ROOT ROT
IN KHAKASS AUTONOMOUS REGION

(1) Хозяйство	(2) Площадь поражен- ных посе- вов (га)	(3) Процент поражен- ных расте- ний	(4) Процент развития болезни
(2) Колхоз: «Знания Коммунизма» . . .	1100	50-70	15-22
(3) Колхоз имени Ленина	370	25-60	25-36
(4) Совхоз: «Московский»	2185	60-83	28-49
(5) «Алтайский»	900	78	22-35
(6) «Борец»	584	69	29-32

Key to Table 2: 1) The farm; 2) Kolkhoz "Znanya Kommunizma"; 3) Kolkhoz imeni Lenin; 4) Sovkhoz "Moskovskiy"; 5) Sovkhoz "Altayskiy"; 6) Sovkhoz "Borets"; 7) The area of the affected crops (hectares); 8) The percentage of the affected plants; 9) The percentage of the development of the disease.

more extensively (15-17%) than the soft wheats (6-7%). But on the greater portion of the territory on which the spring cereals were cultivated the conditions in the period of the vegetation were favorable for the develop- ment of the plants and in spite of the wide spread of the root rot it was of no material significance (Table 3).

However, a large reservoir of infection in the soil and also a high and excessive amount of precipitation in the period of the wheat ripening and harvesting caused in a number of the country's oblasts a severe infec- tion of the grain with holminthosporium disease. Thus, in Siberia (Novo- sibirskaya, Kemerovskaya, Kustanayskaya and Karagandinskaya oblasts, and Altayskiy and Krasnoyarskiy krays) and also in the separate regions of Vol- gogradskaya Oblast the grain disease reached 50% and more. In Chelyabin- skaya Oblast, separate lots of the hard winter wheat had up to 60% of in- fected grain. A deterioration of its quality and a sharp decline of the germination rate were observed because of this (Table 4). For example, in Novosibirskaya Oblast, separate lots of the grain of the varieties Skala

Table 3

THE ATTACK OF SPRING WHEAT BY ROYE ROT

(1) Республика, область	(9) Площадь пораженных посевов (га)	(10) Процент пораженных растений	(1) Республика, область	(9) Площадь пораженных посевов (га)	(10) Процент пораженных растений
(2) Саратовская обл.	4 100	1-18	Омская обл. . . (6) . . .	2 720	6-27
(3) Оренбургская обл.	41 921	1-10	Читинская обл. . . (7) . . .	7 617	1-30
(4) Тюменская обл.	9 479	4-10	Тувинская АССР (8) . . .	650	1-17
(5) Павлодарская обл.	1 100	1-5			

Key to Table 3: 1) Republic or oblast; 2) Saratovskaya Oblast; 3) Orenburgskaya Oblast; 4) Tyumenskaya Oblast; 5) Pavlodarskaya Oblast; 6) Omskaya Oblast; 7) Chitinskaya Oblast; 8) Tuva ASSR; 9) The area of the attacked crops (hectares); 10) The percentage of the attacked plants.

Table 4

THE DATA OF THE ANALYSIS OF THE SPRING WHEAT SEEDS.
(VIEZP / ALL-UNION PLANT PROTECTION INSTITUTE, 1961/7)

(1) Сорт	Процент проросших семян (11)		Процент не проросших семян (14)		Процент пораженных грибами (17)		
	(12) с нормальными ростками	(13) с ослабленными ростками	(15) здоровых	(16) больных	(18) гемизиготная спорозития	(19) фузариоз	(20) плесень
(21) Кемеровская область							
(2) Скала	64,0	12,5	2,0	21,5	100	—	—
(3) Алмаз	69,7	10,0	4,2	25,7	100	—	—
(4) Саратовская 29	44,0	10,0	5,0	41,2	85	15	—
(5) Лютеценс 751	42,0	14,5	4,0	39,5	82	18	—
(22) Иркутская область							
(6) Народная	53,5	11,7	21,3	13,5	63	19	18
(23) Кустанайская область							
(7) Кустанайская 14	48,0	15,5	19,0	17,5	74	26	—
	37,7	17,0	35,7	9,6	75	12	13
(24) Карагандинская область							
(8) Образец: 2291	71,0	5,2	10,5	13,3	56	14	30
2267	63,2	10,6	12,5	13,7	36	26	38
2306	43,0	13,5	31,0	11,0	41	23	36
2307	34,0	29,0	5,5	11,5	57	8	35
(25) Волгоградская область							
(9) Альбидум 43	72,2	7,5	7,0	13,5	44	30	26
(10) Малиноpus 1932	52,5	25,1	7,7	14,8	32	31	31
	51,0	25,6	4,3	18,4	50	4	6

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Key to Table 1: 1) Variety; 2) Strain; 3) Diamant;
4) Saratovskaya 29; 5) Lyubetskaya 751; 6) Narodnaya;
7) Kustanayskaya 11; 8) Sample: 2291, 2267, 2306,
2307; 9) Alb'idum 43; 10) Malyanovskaya 1932; 11) The
percentage of germinating seeds; 12) With normal
shoots; 13) With weakened shoots; 14) The percentage
of ungerminating seeds; 15) Healthy; 16) Diseased;
17) The percentage of diseased seeds attacked by the
fungi; 18) Helminthosporium; 19) Fusarium; 20) Mold;
21) Kemerovskaya Oblast; 22) Irkutskaya Oblast;
23) Kustanayskaya Oblast; 24) Karagandinskaya Oblast;
25) Volgogradskaya Oblast.

and Diamant had a germination rate of the order of 31-32%. In a number of
oblasts (Bryanskaya, Orlovskaya, Lipetskaya, Cheljabinskaya, Belgorodskaya,
Kemerovskaya, etc.) and also in Belorussian SSR a considerable portion of
the seeds also failed to be up to grade with respect to the germination
rate and degree of infection with the fungi.

The root rots in winter wheat were caused by a number of causal or-
ganisms but chiefly by the Fusarium species *F. culmorum* Sacc., *F. gibbosum*
App., etc.

Extensive reservoirs of disease were observed in the Baltic repub-
lics. For example, at the Kolchoz imeni Monlikayte in Kedaynskiy Rayon of
Lithuanian SSR the wheat stems with empty heads amounted to as much as 46%
on the sections after barley. In Tartuskiy, Vyruskiy and other regions of
Estonian SSR, with a slight attack on most of the sowings the diseased
plants amounted to as much as 93% only in separate fields. On the farms
in Krasnoslobodskiy Rayon of Mordovian ASSR the empty heads amounted to
40%. In Checheno-Ingush ASSR, owing to a severe thinning-out of the crops
7,580 hectares of the winter crops, including 2,232 hectares of wheat, were
reserved. In doing so, the amount of lost plants reached 40%. However, on
the greater portion of the crops in European part of the USSR the disease was
of no material economic significance.

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TABLE 5
DISTRIBUTION OF THE CROPS BY CERCOSPORELLA AND
OPHIOBOLUS IN SSC (ACCORDING TO THE DATA
OF 2. NATIONAL SURVEY AND G. A. FOMININA)

Культура (1)	3) Процент пораженных растений	(2) Место проведения учетов
(7) Церкоспореллез		
(2) Озимая пшеница	10,2—32,7 До 40,0	С. Унятыги Дрогобычского района Львовской области (12) С. Дотнуво Кедаянвского района Литовской ССР (13)
(3) Озимый ячмень	2,7—58,0 До 6,7	В различных местах Латвийской ССР (14) Прикарпатская сельскохозяйственная опытная станция, Львовская область (15)
(4) Озимая рожь	6,1—16,9 8,1—21,9 4,4—35,0	Там же (16) В различных местах Литовской ССР (17) В различных местах Латвийской ССР (18)
(10) Офиоболез		
(5) Озимая пшеница	4,0—31,0 0,5—17,0	Отдельные хозяйства Залеского и Баксанского районов Кабардино-Балкарской АССР (19) Отдельные хозяйства Минераловодского района Ставропольского края (20)

Key to Table 5: 1) The crop; 2) Winter wheat; 3) Winter barley; 4) Winter rye; 5) Winter wheat; 6) The percentage of the attacked plants; 7) Cercosporiella disease; 8) Up to 40.0; 9) Up to 6.7; 10) Ophiobolus disease; 11) The locality where the count was made; 12) The Village of Upanytygi in Droghobychskiy Rayon of L'vovskaya Oblast; 13) The Village of Dotnuvo in Kedaynyanskiy Rayon of Lithuanian SSR; 14) In various localities of Latvian SSR; 15) Carpatian Region Agricultural Experiment Station, L'vovskaya Oblast; 16) Ditto; 17) In various localities of Lithuanian SSR; 18) In various localities of Latvian SSR; 19) Separate farms in Zalvskiy and Baksanskiy rayons of Kabardino-Balkar ASSR; 20) Separate farms in Mineralovodskiy Rayon of Stavropol'skiy Kray.

Separate reservoirs of disease caused by a complex of causal organisms (*Fusarium* sp., *Ophiobolus graminis* Sacc., *Helminthosporium sativum* P. K. et B.) were observed in Sumskaya Oblast (up to 1.6%) and also on a number of farms in Iabinskii and Obraznonskiy rayons of Krasnodarskiy Kray (from 1.2 to 5.9%).

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Isolated cases of ophioides and cercosporella disease (Cercosporella horrothrichoides Fren.) with a slight degree of manifestation were encountered in North Caucasus, Ukraine and Baltic Region. Selective survey data are given in Table 5.

A mass-scale development of fusariosis on the winter wheat spikes was observed in many localities and especially in Krasnodarskiy Kray (Table 6). For example, there was a considerable attack on the farms of Labinskiy, Otradenenskiy and Pavlovskiy rayons where root rots were observed at the same time. The appearance of fusariosis on the spikes and grain was caused by the falling of a considerable amount of precipitation in the period of the grain forming and ripening.

Table 6

DATA ON THE MOST INTENSE ATTACK OF THE WINTER WHEAT SPIKES BY FUSARIOSIS IN KRASNODARSKIY KRAY

(1) Район	(10) Колос	(25) Общее количество пораженных колосов (га)	(26) Процент поражения колосов
Абинский (2)	{ «Красное Знамя» (11)	240	48
	{ «Восток» . . . (12)	370	56
Отрадененский (3)	{ Им. Крупской . . . (13)	90	10
Лабинский (4)	{ «Путь Ильича» . . (14)	60	61
	{ Ново-Александровский (15)	17	65
Усть-Лабинский (5)	{ Им. Ленина . . . (16)	115	49
	{ «Дружба» . . . (17)	126	12
Павловский (6)	{ «Советская Россия» (18)	289	32
	{ Им. Калинина (19)	247	15
Крымский (7)	{ «Победа» . . (20)	360	27
	{ «Путь Ильича» . . (14)	100	23
Кушевский (8)	{ «Завезы Ильича» . . (21)	60	31
	{ «Победа» . . (20)	30	80
	{ Им. Чапаева . . (22)	37	21
Каневский (9)	{ «Россия» . . (23)	232	16
	{ «Завезы Ильича» (21)	56	4
	{ Им. Суворова . . (24)	141	2
	{ «Победа» . . . (20)	96	1

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Key to Table 6: 1) Region; 2) Kolbinskiy; 3) Otradnenskiy;
4) Labinskii; 5) Ussat'-Kolbinskiy; 6) Iskolovskiy; 7) Kras-
skiy; 8) Krasnokholmskiy; 9) Krasnovskiy; 10) Kolkhoz; 11) "Kras-
noye Znamya"; 12) "Vostok"; 13) Kolkhoz imeni Krasnaya;
14) "Krasnaya"; 15) Novo-Kolchayevskiy; 16) Kolkhoz
imeni Lenin; 17) "Druzhba"; 18) "Sovetskaya Rossiya";
19) Kolkhoz imeni Kalinin; 20) "Prohoda"; 21) "Zavety
Mirova"; 22) Kolkhoz imeni Chernyshev; 23) "Rossiya";
24) Kolkhoz imeni Suvorov; 25) The area surveyed (hec-
tares); 26) The percentage of the attacked spikes.

A following year's yield depends to a considerable degree on the quality of the seeds. Because of this, it is extremely necessary to treat the seeds against helminthosporium and fusarium infection. It was found that after using the mercury preparations (Granosan, etc.) the extent of the infection of, for example, spring wheat grain by helminthosporium is reduced from 40% to 2% with a simultaneous increase of the grain germination rate from 59% to 92%. Treatment also has a positive effect on the field germination rate and on the density of the stand. To intensify the development of the plants in the initial period of the vegetation the seeds should be dusted with superphosphate (2 kilograms per 1 centner) before sowing.

A large reservoir of the soil and seed infection when agricultural preventive measures are not observed may lead to a mass-scale attack of the soft and especially hard spring wheats by the root rots. On the condition of normal wintering of the plants the root rots will not have a widespread occurrence in the winter wheats.