

Wheat leaf rust (*Puccinia triticina*) in Canada in 2006

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In 2006 wheat leaf rust (caused by *Puccinia triticina*) was light in eastern and central Manitoba due to dry conditions but more severe in western Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan. Leaf rust severity averaged 10.2% (flag leaf coverage) in Manitoba and 5.3% in Saskatchewan. There were reports of leaf rust over-wintering on winter wheat fields in Saskatchewan. Three hundred and seventeen single pustule isolates from collections across Canada were assessed for virulence on 16 single gene differential lines. The most commonly identified virulence phenotypes were TDBG (50.1%), TDBJ (16.7%), and MFDS (5.1%). TDBG was only found in western Canada and was different from nearly all other virulence phenotypes in that it was avirulent to a second resistance gene, temporarily designated *LrCen*, in the Thatcher-*Lr1* isogenic line RL6003 and avirulent to *Lr14a*. MFDS was the most frequently isolated virulence phenotype from Ontario and Quebec but was not found in western Canada.