

Central Oregon (Jefferson County) – May 21, 2015

Jeremiah Dung¹, Stephen Alderman², Kenneth Frost³, Navneet Kaur³, ⁴Darrin Walenta, and Philip Hamm³

¹OSU Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Madras; ²USDA-ARS NFSPRC, Corvallis; ³OSU Hermiston Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Hermiston; OSU Union Co. Ext. Service, La Grande⁴.

April 10 thru May 14 Ergot Spore Trapping

- In 2014, a spore trap was deployed in an established Kentucky bluegrass field at COARC between May 9th and the 4th of July. A total of 55 spores were detected between May 9th and June 19th.
- A Burkard spore trap is deployed in Kentucky bluegrass plots located at the Central Oregon Agriculture Research Center (COARC). Twelve Kentucky bluegrass cultivars were planted in the fall of 2014 and spore trapping was initiated on April 10, 2015 (Table 1).

Suggestions for Ergot Management

- ***Spores have not been detected at COARC but many cultivars have already initiated flowering, which is the only susceptible stage for ergot infection. Keep monitoring fields as earlier emerging cultivars and heads approach the flowering stage.***
- At this point, it is too early to determine the risk level for ergot infection since spores have not been detected at COARC; ***however, it is very important to monitor fields that had some level of infection in 2014 (honeydew and/or ergot sclerotia in the field or during clean-out). It is also important to monitor fields that are in proximity to previously established fields that had ergot in 2014.***
- Tank mixing fungicides with plant growth regulators at this time for ergot suppression are not recommended either.
- Please consult the PNW Plant Disease Management handbook for fungicide products available for ergot suppression in OR/WA grass seed crops or search the Pesticide Information Center Online. Links to the web resources are listed below:
 - *Pacific Northwest Plant Disease Management Handbook:*
<http://pnwhandbooks.org/plantdisease/grass-seed-ergot>
 - *Washington State Pest Management Resource Service Pesticide Information Center Online Databases:* <http://cru66.cahe.wsu.edu/LabelTolerance.html>

****Application of a pesticide to a crop or site not on the label, or in a manner inconsistent with label directions, is a violation of pesticide law and may subject the applicator to civil penalties.***

Table 1. Location, cultivar, and growth stage of Kentucky bluegrass cultivars at the 2015 ergot spore monitoring site in Central Oregon (Jefferson County).

Site	County	Latitude/Longitude	Grass species	Cultivar	Feekes growth stage ¹
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Bluechip	10.1 to 10.51 ~50% of tillers at 10.1
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Blue Ghost	10.1 to 10.51 ~70% of tillers at 10.1
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	DB-1013	10.1 to 10.51 ~20% of tillers at 10.1
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Fielder	10.1 to 10.51 ~20% of tillers at 10.1
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Gateway	10.1 to 10.5 ~50% of tillers at 10.5
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Gladstone	10.1 to 10.51 ~40% of tillers at 10.1
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Jumpstart	10.1 to 10.51 ~40% of tillers at 10.1
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Midnight II	10 to 10.1 ~50% of tillers at 10
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Nuglade	10 to 10.1 ~50% of tillers at 10
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	PST-K4-7	10.1 to 10.5 ~40% of tillers at 10.1
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Right	10.1 to 10.51 ~25% of tillers at 10.1
KBG-5	Jefferson, OR	44°40'46.75"N / 121°8'54.95"W	Kentucky Bluegrass	Shamrock	10.1 to 10.51 ~10% of tillers at 10.1

¹Feekes 10 = boot stage. Feekes 10.5 = head fully emerged. Feekes 10.51 = anthesis begins (first appearance of stigmas/anthers).
Ratings are current as of May 17, 2015.

Cumulative Degree Days (Jan 1 thru May 20):

Air: 329

Soil (4" depth): 259

Cumulative growing degree days are calculated using data from the MRSO weather station in the AgriMet Cooperative Agricultural Weather Network (<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/agrimet/>). A lower baseline of 50° F and an upper baseline of 77° F are used in the calculations for both air and soil calculations. Cumulative growing degree days were calculated starting January 1, 2015.

*Please contact Jeremiah Dung, Plant Pathologist, with any question, comments or ergot observations at:
OSU Central Oregon Agricultural Research Center, 850 NW Dogwood Ln, Madras, OR, 97741
Phone: 541-475-7107 or Email: jeremiah.dung@oregonstate.edu*