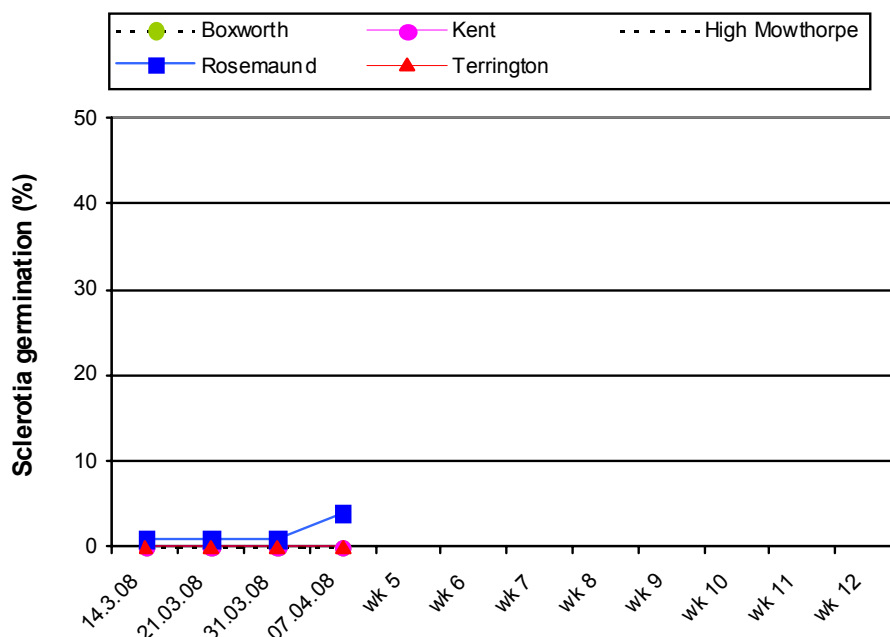


BASF/ADAS Sclerotinia Monitoring

Update 9th April 2008

BASF
The Chemical Company

Early Sclerotinia germination is low. Do not rush to spray for sclerotinia.
Look out for light leaf spot



Crops are mainly between the yellow bud stage and early flowering stages with some crops in the north and late crops in other regions still at the mid-stem extension stage. The percentage of plants starting to flower is very variable and at least 50% plants should have flowers before the crop is considered at the early flowering growth stage. Pigeon damage is severe in many fields or parts of fields and decisions should be made about whether to treat these areas as different crops for fertiliser and pesticide treatment.

Light leaf spot is present at high levels in some crops in all regions and is most prevalent in the north and west. It will now be difficult to control but should be part of decision making on products at PGR and sclerotinia timings. A threshold of 15-20% plants with light leaf spot is suggested this year because of the increased value of rapeseed. Phoma leaf spot is common and the first stem cankers can be found. No treatment is advised at this stage.

Sclerotinia germination has re-started at ADAS Rosemaund this week with 3% new germination. No germination has occurred so far at the other 4 sites. Soils are moist on the surface in many areas and sclerotinia activity should increase as soil temperatures rise. At present the sclerotinia risk is low. There is no need to rush to spray crops as sclerotinia risk is likely to increase later in April and into May and fungicides give only about 3 weeks protection.

ACTION

Decisions and actions with plant growth regulators should be completed. PGR treatments should give early protection against sclerotinia, allowing the main sclerotinia treatment to be applied close to mid-flowering. At high risk sites where no PGR is used, sclerotinia treatment is advised prior to forecast rain at early to mid-flowering. For light leaf spot, a fungicide spray is advised if more than 15% plants are affected at mid stem extension, though control of this disease will now form part of PGR or sclerotinia control decisions.

If you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact your local Agronomy Manager or the BASF Technical Services Hotline 0845 602 2553.

BASF plc Agricultural Products Division

P.O. Box 4 – Earl Road – Cheadle Hulme – Cheadle – Cheshire SK8 6QG
Telephone: 0161 485 6222 – Fax: 0161 485 2229

ALWAYS READ THE LABEL. USE PESTICIDES SAFELY

www.agriCentre.basf.co.uk