

STAYING AHEAD OF RUST OUTBREAKS

THE sight of the tell tale rust coloured powder on cereals is not a sign that rust has arrived, it is a sign that rust has been there for quite a while and has now produced spores.

Prompt attention when the first spores arrive can minimise the damage and prevent the infestation spreading, but it does mean that some yield reduction has already occurred.

Although established rust infestations can be treated successfully with foliar sprays, it could pay to spray the crop as a preventative measure if the crops are very good and the yield potential is high.

Good crops are not only worth protecting, but a combination of a dense

crop canopy and warm, wet weather can produce the conditions that make a rust infestation more likely.

Farmers who monitor their crops regularly are not caught by surprise when weeds or disease appear, giving them the ability to act quickly without being rushed.

The cheapest way to control rust is with 4Farmers Triadimefon 125, now only around \$5/ha and the overall cost of treatment can be reduced further by tank mixing it with post emergent herbicides if they are to be used.

But, talk to your 4Farmers agent soon about the special price on offer for this versatile fungicide.



Only weeks before, this badly infested crop was free of rust and was capable of yielding its full potential. If your crops are at risk, act quickly, because very few things move as fast as rust spores across a paddock.

APHIDS IN CANOLA

INSECTS look forward to the coming of warm weather as much as the tourists do, but if your visitors are aphids and they are visiting your canola, it pays to move them on quickly.

Once canola starts to flower, there are a variety of insecticides that can control aphids, but broad-spectrum insecticides attack all insects, friend and foe alike,

which means that the damage done to the aphid population is mirrored by a similar attack on their natural predators.

4Farmers Pirimicarb is a selective product that leaves the predators alone, a great help if the aphids return, but there's more! It doesn't kill the bees that are pollinating the canola crop.

DON'T FEED APHIDS

BROAD spectrum products that can control insects include 4Farmers Cypermethrin 260 EC and Alpha-Cypermethrin 100, both of which will control aphids, Balaustium and other mites, as well as webworm, cutworm, budworm, army worm, RLEM and pea weevils.

But sometimes it is not necessary to kill an insect, just to keep it moving, such as when aphids are spreading Yellow Dwarf Virus and, although the virus can't

be controlled, removal of the aphids will stop its spread.

The Cypermethrin family of insecticides is particularly suited for this task because they act as anti-feeders, making the crop unattractive to the aphids, which then move on.

It is a very cost effective method because control can often be achieved by just spraying a barrier around a paddock, rather than covering the entire area.

HABIT 8: Capturing opportunities by moving quickly

FARMING is all about change and how to manage it, with the research carried out by the Professional Farmers of America showing that it's the decision-making process of highly profitable farmers that sets them apart.

They know what they need, know a good innovation when they see one, and know how the change will help advance their business, but most importantly, they know

when the time is right for change.

Anticipate, investigate, analyse and act. Skills in those areas put highly profitable farmers in position to be amongst the first to adopt a change and be able to obtain the most benefit.

Farmers who carry out this amount of homework are able to "Act quickly, but don't hurry."

4Farmers Pty Ltd

Suppliers of agricultural chemicals to protect your crops and animals.

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4 FARMERS, FOR FARMERS

Removing grasses from pastures

AS the weather warms up and the clovers start to put on a growth spurt, it becomes possible to remove grasses from the pasture without creating a shortage of paddock feed.

Grasses can become the host for cereal crop diseases, so their removal provides a valuable disease break, while the soil Nitrogen not used up by grasses will remain in the soil, ready for the next cereal crop.

By using Quizalofop-P-Ethyl (QPE) for this job, brome and barley grass can also be removed, all for an expenditure of about \$6/ha instead of more than \$20/ha to remove this duo from a cereal crop, while the absence of these weeds can reduce seed contamination in wool later in the season.

It makes a lot of sense to start casting a critical eye over your pastures and to discuss this problem with the 4Farmers staff at Dowerin and Newdegate.

A THOUGHT FROM e.anon.

If at first you don't succeed, then don't try skydiving.

IT PAYS TO REMEMBER

Before 4Farmers Cypermethrin went on the market for \$450, other suppliers charged \$810 for the same amount.

Technical information can be obtained from 4Farmers agents or from Terry Piper, Chief Agronomist, 4Farmers, Welshpool. Phone 9356 3445.