

White Mold - IPM Guideline for Lima Bean

Note: this guideline may be applicable to other legume crops including:

Common Bean (dry, snap, fresh market, seed)

Cool Season (chickpea, lentil, pea)

Disease Diagnostic Confirmation

Work with local crop consultants, field specialists and disease diagnosticians to confirm identity of disease causes. Provide background information on the field and problem, and deliver representative samples (including healthy appearing to badly affected tissue and plants) to qualified experts for diagnosis and confirmation. <http://wiki.bugwood.org/PIPE:Legume>

Vegetative Growth Stages

Current data indicate that fungicide applications are not recommended in the early vegetative growth stages for white mold control.

Reproductive Growth Stages

White mold fungicides should be applied during flowering (50% to 100% bloom) to protect blossoms prior to senescence and colonization by the fungus if present in a field with a history of the disease. Late applications are not recommended.

- Rotate to exclude susceptible host crops (i.e., sunflower, soybean, chickpea, pea, canola, camelina, common bean) for 3 + years; examples of non-host crops include small grains and corn
- avoid planting in fields with a history of disease during the last 3 - 5 years
- plant resistant or less susceptible varieties if available
- follow recommended plant population - row & plant spacing
- soil test and use a moderate fertility program; e.g., not to exceed 75 - 100 lb N/A
- incorporate fall and/or spring tillage to eliminate carryover seed and volunteer legumes in last year's legume fields, promote root health and moisture drainage in this year's lima bean fields
- monitor irrigation scheduling to avoid flowering-period deficiency but late-season saturation
- utilize timely scouting, disease forecasting, and weather monitoring services
- when justified, use timely applications of recommended fungicides at first signs of disease; maintain protection throughout flowering and early pod set
- if a susceptible variety is planted in a field with a history of disease and the pathogen and/or disease are confirmed, consider treatment with a labeled fungicide

[Guideline adapted for Colorado and surrounding region by Dr. H. F. Schwartz, M. S. McMillan, and K. L. Otto]