



# White Mold

*Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*



FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3

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*Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*

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**PHOTOGRAPHS:** Courtesy of H.F. Schwartz & R.M. Harveson [08/09]

**COMMON HOSTS:** all Legumes (sunflower, potato, canola, most weeds, etc)

**SYMPTOMS (ON COMMON BEAN):**

**FIGURE 1** • Circular, light tan colored apothecia 2–10 mm diameter ( $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch) develop from black sclerotia buried to a depth of 5 cm (2 inches) and release ascospores.

**FIGURE 2** • Ascospores colonize blossoms and other senescent plant tissue beneath and within the canopy; infected plant stems, branches and vines become watersoaked and wilted.

**FIGURE 3** • Affected tissues become covered by white, cottony mycelia and sclerotia which darken and harden with age. Tissues dry out and bleach to a nearly white color; the epidermis easily sloughs off when rubbed.

**FACTORS FAVORING:**

- Infected seed, infested bean and other susceptible host debris from previous seasons
- Rainstorms, dew, fog, irrigation, high fertility
- Moderate temperatures with daily highs less than 30°C [86°F]

**ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSTICS AVAILABLE AT:**

<http://legume.ipmpipe.org>

<http://wiki.bugwood.org/PIPE:Legume>

<http://www.npdn.org/DesktopDefault.aspx>