

## Opportunities to Participate in Summer Pest Surveys

Growers and agronomists have the opportunity to participate in research projects through providing access to fields or sending in samples. Researchers are looking for diseased chickpea, faba bean, and soybean samples, as well as insect samples from stored pulses and soybeans as outlined below.

1. **Chickpea Ascochyta Survey** - Samples of chickpea plants with *Ascochyta rabei* symptoms are being requested by Dr. Michelle Hubbard from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in Swift Current, to evaluate the level of fungicide resistance in the pathogen. Dr. Hubbard is looking for samples from up to 16 chickpea fields by the end of July.

For instructions on sampling procedures and how to send the samples, please contact Dr. Hubbard directly: Phone (306) 770-4461, Cell (306) 772-0470, or email [michelle.hubbard@agr.gc.ca](mailto:michelle.hubbard@agr.gc.ca). For identification, refer to [Scouting & Management of Ascochyta Blight in Chickpeas](#).



**Figure 1.** Ascochyta blight of chickpeas.

2. **Faba Bean Foliar Disease Survey** - In Saskatchewan, 20 to 30 faba bean fields have the opportunity to be part of the faba bean foliar disease survey in July. The University of Saskatchewan and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada are looking for agronomists willing to scout a field or two and send in some samples.

Growers can also participate as surveyors are looking for fields to scout. Anyone with access to faba bean field(s) who is interested in the survey, please contact Dr. Sabine Banniza at [sabine.banniza@usask.ca](mailto:sabine.banniza@usask.ca). For foliar diseases refer to [chocolate spot in faba beans](#).



**Figure 2.** Chocolate spot on faba bean.

3. **Bean Weevil Samples** – Live bean weevils (Figure 3) are being sought by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Grain Commission for research on how to control this insect and to better understand its distribution across Canada. This insect has been found across Canada, mainly in Eastern Canada, but on rare occasions can be found in stored pulses. The bean weevil primarily attacks stored beans, but can infest faba beans, lentils, chickpeas, and soybeans. Females lay eggs on the seed, larvae develop inside the seed, and adults exit the seed leaving a distinctive round two millimetre hole (Figure 4). For Western Canadian growers it is important to know if the pest is here, and if it is same as that found in Eastern Canada. Researchers are also studying of the use of cold temperatures as method of control. This insect is one of the pests of concern regarding fumigation requirements by India.



**Figure 3.** The adult bean weevil is 2 to 4.5 mm long. A dime is 1 mm thick.

Source: Canadian Grain Commission



**Figure 4.** The damage caused by exiting adult bean weevils, and eggs on seed surface.

Source: Canadian Grain Commission

If you see insects in stored pulses please contact Paul Fields with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: [paul.fields@agr.gc.ca](mailto:paul.fields@agr.gc.ca), (204)-295-4533, or Blaine Timlick with the Canadian Grain Commission: [Blaine.Timlick@grainscanada.gc.ca](mailto:Blaine.Timlick@grainscanada.gc.ca), (204)-983-2788, for sampling and shipping instructions. Click for more information on [Bean Weevil \(\*Acanthoscelides obtectus\*\)](#).

4. **Soybean Pytophthora Root Rot (PRR) Survey** – Saskatchewan soybean growers and agronomists have the opportunity to provide information and samples pertaining to PRR in soybeans. Dr. Deb McLaren with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada at Brandon, Manitoba is leading a project that will determine the prevalence of *Phytophthora sojae* in Saskatchewan, and identify races present. The survey is to take place during early to mid-pod stage of soybeans (late July to mid-August). They are targeting 25 to 30 fields that are showing suspect symptoms for PRR (Figure 5). If you are interested in scouting a few soybean fields, and/or sending in suspect samples, please contact Cheryl Gore: [cgore@saskpulse.com](mailto:cgore@saskpulse.com), (306)-668-9171 for protocols and shipping instructions.



**Figure 5.** Phytophthora root rot on soybeans.

Source: Dr. McLaren, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada