

Title: Survey of Plant Parasitic Cereal Cyst and Root Lesion Nematodes in Alberta

Date: June 26, 2020

Dear Producer

Center for Innovation Olds College AB is conducting a project “*Survey of Cereal Cyst and Root Lesion Nematodes in Alberta*” funded by AB Wheat Commission. We are relying in on your participation to conduct this survey.

Nematodes and Crop Losses: Nematodes are unsegmented roundworms, usually shorter than two mm in length. Nematodes that feed on plants (better known as plant parasites) causes crop yield losses when the population levels are high enough. Above ground symptoms of damage can often be confused with other issues like low fertility or low/high moisture. Damage occur in patches, and the only way to accurately diagnose a nematode problem is to sample soil and plant material from the suspected field and perform further laboratory analysis.

Study Objectives: The study requires your assistance to collect soil and root samples especially from the fields experiencing low yields due to unknown reasons. The study aims to determine:

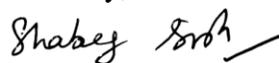
- If the cereal cyst nematode is present in Alberta.
- Population levels of the root lesion nematodes causing damage to the cereals especially wheat growing areas of Alberta.

Benefits to the Cereal Growers: Screening of soil and root samples will provide the basis for extension efforts to reduce the buildup of Plant Parasitic Nematode population levels and their further spread, and focus on the management practices as needed.

Once all analyses are completed, communication of the project results will be done in coordination with the AB Wheat Commission. If you are able to participate, please use the contact information below. Grower’s confidentiality and field location will be maintained at all levels.

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Shabeg S. Briar, P. Ag.

Olds College Centre for Innovation 4500 - 50th Street Olds

Alberta, Canada- T4H 1R6

Cell: 587-574-0888

Office: 403-507-7980

E mail: sbriar@oldscollege.ca