

### **Powdery mildew of field peas:** Symptoms, disease impacts, risk factors, and management

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# Initial symptom expression: Small patches of white powdery growth on upper surfaces of oldest leaves



#### **FIELD PEAS** Identification of powdery mildew

Early to mid-symptom expression: White powdery layer above green tissue

Late symptom expression: Patchy gray discoloration, underlying plant tissue.

Plants develop a bluish color.





Impacts of powdery mildew:

- Reduced yield
- Significantly reduced seed size
- Severe "mildew dust" at harvest, resulting in breathing and allergy problems for machinery operators

### **FIELD PEAS** Conditions favoring disease

## Warm, dry weather accompanied by cool nights with dew formation

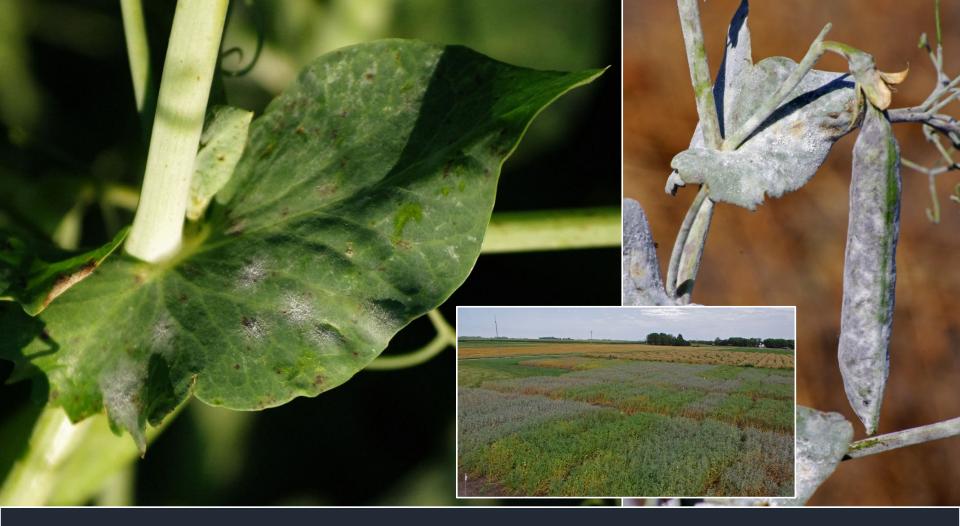
## Dry weather favors this disease.

- Spores germinate in absence of leaf wetness
- Rainfall reduces spore viability



### FIELD PEAS Management of powdery mildew

- **Resistant varieties confer immunity.** Many varieties are susceptible.
- Early planting: Late planting increases powdery mildew risk.
- Fungicides:
- Registered fungicides differ widely in efficacy
- **Must be applied preventatively** before disease development at an appropriate growth stage. New field pea growth will not be protected.
- A single fungicide application can provide season-long management of powdery mildew when the most effective products are applied preventatively at the correct growth stage.
- Please reference the accompanying PDF and explanatory video summarizing fungicide efficacy and application timing research for current fungicide recommendations.



### Thank you!

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