Healthy Wheat for a Prosperous Pakistan

WHEAT YELLOW RUST

Know it | Detect it | Manage it

Protect your crop – Secure your yield



Yellow rust pustules on wheat leaf

What is Yellow Rust?

Yellow rust (stripe rust) is a serious fungal disease of wheat caused by *Puccinia striiformis*. It can reduce yield significantly and threaten wheat production in Pakistan, especially in cool and humid weather. The disease spreads quickly and can affect all above-ground parts of the plant.

How to Diagnose It?

- Look for yellow-orange pustules in long stripes on leaves, mainly on the upper surface.
- Pustules are powdery and rub off as yellow dust when touched.
- Initially appears as small yellow streaks, later spreads and turns orange.
- Severe infection leads to leaf drying, reduced grain filling and lower yield.



Early symptoms (yellow streaks)



Pustules (yellow-orange)



Severe infection (leaf drying)

Management Strategies

1 Use Resistant Varieties

- Choose rust-resistant and recommended varieties for your area.
- Avoid using susceptible varieties.

2 Early Detection & Monitoring

- Regularly scout your fields, especially during cool and cloudy weather.
- Check for yellow streaks and pustules on leaves.

3 Apply Fungicide (when needed)

- Use registered fungicide(s) for wheat rust as per label and expert recommendations.
- Apply at early stage of disease appearance for better control.

4 Good Agronomic Practices

- Timely sowing and proper seed rate.
- Maintain field hygiene (remove volunteer wheat and infected residues).
- Balanced use of fertilizers.

5 Community Action

- Coordinate with neighboring farmers.
- Report unusual disease outbreaks to agriculture extension services.

DO's

- ✓ Use certified, rust-resistant seed.
- ✓ Monitor your field regularly.
- ✓ Apply recommended fungicide at the right time.
- ✓ Keep the field and equipment clean.
- ✓ Follow advice from agriculture experts and extension services.

DON'Ts

- ✗ Do not use saved seed from infected fields.
- ✗ Do not ignore early yellow streaks.
- ✗ Do not use unregistered or wrong fungicides.
- ✗ Do not delay control measures.
- ✗ Do not allow crop debris and volunteer wheat in the field.

Healthy Crop | Higher Yield | Food Security

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