

TRIVIA ON RICE PESTS



Bacterial leaf blight

Causal Organism:

Xanthomonas oryzae pv. *oryzae*

Growth Stages Affected:

Booting or heading to dough stage

How to identify?

On seedlings (kresek)

- **Leaves** - turn yellow and straw-colored and wilt, leading whole seedlings to dry up and die.

On older plants

- **Lesions** - usually develop in leaf blade, leaf tips or mechanically injured part of leaves having water-soaked to yellow orange stripes.

Source: IRRI



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Why and where it occurs?



BLB may develop in areas that have weeds and stubbles. Also, it can occur on tropical or temperate environments, specially in irrigated and rainfed lowland areas.

Condition for disease development

Temperature of 25–34°C, with relative humidity above 70% favors the disease development of the said pest.

Source: IRRI and BPI- PRIME Data base

Photocredits: IRRI

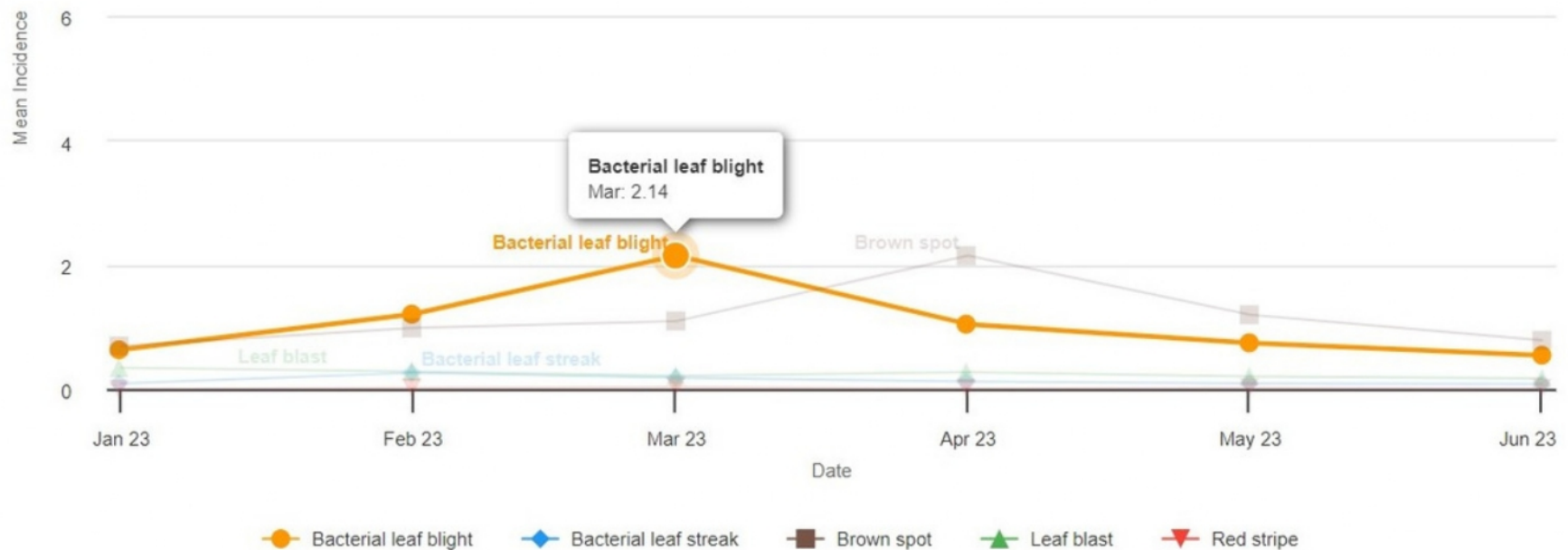


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National Trend of Bacterial leaf blight from January to June 2023 on PRIME Monitoring fields



Highcharts.com

Source: PRIME Data base



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PEST MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Before crop establishment

- Thorough land preparation.
- Practice synchronous planting (planting in the same dates).

At Vegetative Phase to Reproductive Phase

- Ensure good drainage.
- Field monitoring to identify risks in advance.
- Follow recommended nitrogen fertilizer application (high nitrogen increases crop susceptibility).

After Harvest

- Keep fields clean. Remove weed hosts and plow under rice stubble, straw, rice ratoons and volunteer seedlings which can serve as hosts of bacteria.
- Practice fallow period to suppress disease agents in the soil and plant residues.
- Crop rotation.

Source: IRRI



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