

## **Blackleg in Canola and other Crucifers What You Need to Know**

### **THE FACTS:**

- The WSDA Crucifer Quarantine now includes all counties of eastern WA
- Blackleg has been confirmed in northeast OR grower fields and at the research station
- Lesions have been observed in ID canola and rapeseed fields; the disease has been described as 'common' but not severe
- Blackleg has been very low levels in a few scattered locations in WA

### **WHEN BUYING SEED:**

- Buy ONLY tested and certified blackleg-free seed
- Look for the green WSDA tag on each seed bag indicating Crucifer Quarantine compliance (including cover crop mixtures)
- Look for or ask your seed rep for MR (moderately resistant) or R (resistant) blackleg rating
- Apply seed treatment (most companies already do but double check that)

### **AFTER EMERGENCE:**

- Scout fields for any lesions on leaves and/or cankers on stems (see back for photos)
- Continue to monitor fields throughout the growing season

### **SCOUTING PROTOCOL to avoid spreading blackleg**

- Wear rubber boots
- When finished scouting/sampling a field, scrape and wash off any soil adhering to boots
- Spray boots with 70% alcohol (isopropyl alcohol works well)
- Remove boots and wear clean shoes until reaching the next field

### **IF BLACKLEG IS OBSERVED** (current crop or past crop residue)

- Place DRY leaves and/or stems in a ziploc
- Mail (preferably overnight) or deliver samples to the WSU Plant Diagnostic Clinic, UI or OSU Plant Pathology departments
- Follow recommendations for applying fungicide ONLY if blackleg is confirmed and at or above threshold levels

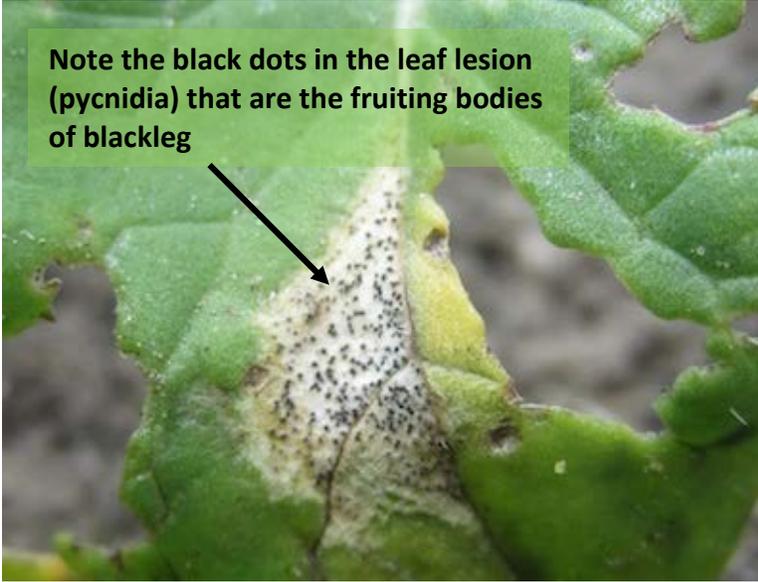
### **HARVEST and TRANSPORTATION**

- Make sure combine is set properly to reduce as much seed loss as possible
- Tarp trucks and seal up rear gates and belly dumps before delivery

### **OTHER KEY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Control Brassica/crucifer volunteers *and* weeds in fields and field borders
- Rotate canola and other brassicas; grow no more than once every 3 years on the same field
- Learn how to identify blackleg symptoms; be vigilant in scouting fields

Note the black dots in the leaf lesion (pycnidia) that are the fruiting bodies of blackleg



**WSU contacts:**

**Tim Paulitz**  
USDA-ARS  
Room 363 Johnson Hall  
Pullman, WA 99164-6430  
**509-335-7077 | 509-592-6401**

**Rachel Bomberger**  
WSU Plant Pest Diagnostic Clinic  
316 Johnson Hall  
Pullman, WA 99164-6430  
**509-335-0619**

**Karen Sowers**  
Outreach Specialist - Oilseeds  
**509-396-5936 | 808-283-7013**

**University of Idaho contacts:**

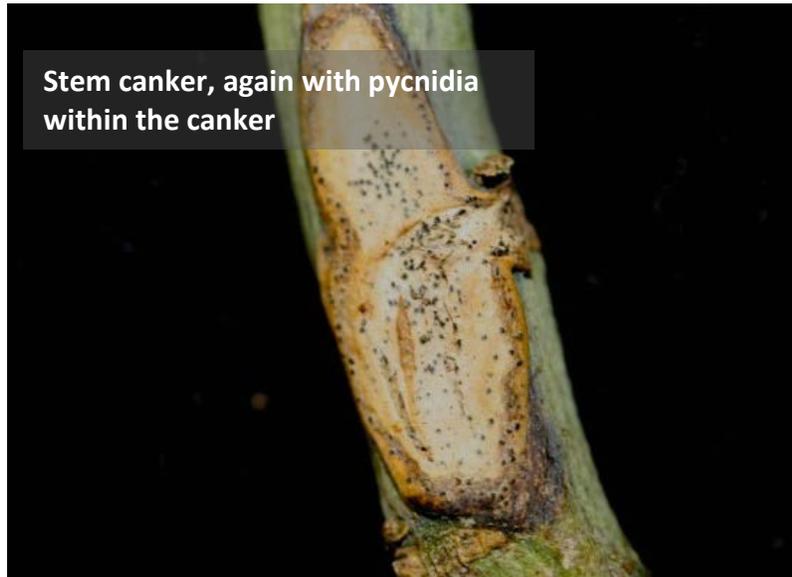
**Jim Davis**  
**208-885-4266 | 208-669-0167**

**Kurt Schroeder**  
PSES Dept, Ag Sci Bldg Rm 242  
Moscow, ID 83844  
**208-885-5020**

**Oregon State University contact:**

**Don Wysocki**  
2411 NW Carden Ave, Umatilla Hall,  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
**509-278-4396 | 541-969-2014**

Stem canker, again with pycnidia within the canker



Pycnidia on canola residue

