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Prairie Pest Monitoring Network Up and Running

The Insect Pest Monitoring Network is a prairie-wide, coordinated insect monitoring program designed to keep the Canadian agriculture industry informed of the risks to crop production from pest species and to highlight and conserve their natural enemies. The Insect Pest Monitoring Network provides weekly risk warnings in map format and are accompanied by interpretive text for use by farmers, extension personnel, pesticide applicators and pesticide manufacturers.

When insect pest outbreaks occur in one area their impact may eventually be felt across a much larger region. "WGRF is proud to be co-funding the Prairie Pest Monitoring Network," says Garth Patterson, WGRF Executive Director. "These updates alert western Canadian producers to the need for changing crop plans or looking at economic thresholds for insecticide application. The data from this project will also contribute to the development of future beneficial management practices."

To view these updates visit www.westernforum.org/IPMNWeeklyUpdates.html

The Insect Pest Monitoring Network is supported by the following partners:

- *Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*
- *AAFC – Pest Management Centre*
- *AAFC – Matching Investment Initiative*
- *Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development*
- *Alberta Canola Producers Commission*
- *BC Grain Producers Association*
- *Canola Council of Canada*
- *Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives*
- *Manitoba Canola Growers Association*
- *Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture*
- *Saskatchewan Crop Insurance*
- *SaskCanola*
- *University of Alberta*
- *Western Grains Research Foundation*

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WGRF Backgrounder

The Western Grains Research Foundation (WGRF) is a farmer funded and directed non-profit organization investing primarily in wheat and barley variety development to benefit western Canadian producers. Through research funding of over \$82 million in producer check-offs WGRF has assisted in the development and release of more than 150 new wheat and barley varieties over the past decade and a half, many of which are today seeded to large portions of the cropland in Western Canada.

WGRF also invests in research on other western Canadian crops through the Endowment fund. Since 1981 the Endowment Fund has supported a wealth of innovation across Western Canada providing over \$28 million in funding for over 250 research projects.