



# LET'S MANAGE IT!

## Plan your FHB management strategy



### Season planning

- Refrain from continuous or short rotations of cereal or corn crops
- Plant clean, high quality seed
- Grow varieties with the best available levels of fusarium resistance



### In-season management

- Treat cereal and corn seed with a fungicide registered for fusarium
- Increase seeding rates to provide a uniform stand of consistent growth stage in the field
- Stagger cereal field planting dates
- Under irrigation avoid creating humid conditions at or near cereal flowering and head emergence
- Scout cereal fields and run Fusarium head blight (FHB) Risk Assessment tool to determine if a fungicide application is advised
- Apply fungicide as necessary to cereals during appropriate spray window for FHB suppression
- Assess FHB infection in crop 10-14 days after anthesis and maintain records of visible infection
  - note that barley infections are much less conspicuous than wheat. Send suspicious heads into lab for testing.



### Harvest management

- Adjust combine fans to blow out lightweight infected wheat kernels OR use chaff collection on fusarium affected fields to catch fusarium damaged kernels
- Consider harvesting early as DON will continue to spread in grain over 19%
- Thoroughly clean equipment used to harvest infected fields before moving to clean fields
- Thoroughly chop and spread straw to encourage decomposition and reduce pathogen survival



### Storage and handling management

- Bin infected grain separately
- Avoid or limit storage of feed grain/grain products in uncovered piles or in direct contact with soil as soil moisture can promote growth of *F. graminearum*
- Control volunteer cereals and grassy weeds on infested fields
- Infected grain must not be allowed to come in contact with the soil, which would allow *F. graminearum* to establish a foothold in roadsides or fields.
- Send in samples for testing to document and confirm any risk of FHB

For full descriptions regarding these best management practices, review [Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's comprehensive overview of FHB](#) including its history in Canada and Alberta, symptoms and effects of the disease, and steps that can be taken to manage fusarium head blight.