WHEAT BLAST Early Warning System

IN BANGLADESH

25% - 30%

25 to 30 percent of wheat was negatively affected, threatening progress in regional food security.

85M Tons

Blast disease has the potential to reduce wheat production by up to 85 million tons in Bangladesh.

$13M loss

A projected $13 million loss in farmers' profits each year when an outbreak occurs.

HOW DOES WHEAT BLAST SPREAD?

Blast can spread through infected seed, but most infection results from airborne spores spread by the wind. These spores are then deposited on leaves and wheat heads. Foggy weather or rainfall can also cause infectious spores to fall from the atmosphere and infect wheat.

INCREASING FARMERS' RESILIENCE TO WHEAT BLAST DISEASE

A new digital early warning system can help extension officers and farmers get ahead.

The system is being rolled out across Bangladesh and Brazil to deliver real-time disease updates to extension workers and smallholder farmers via text and email.

The lesion sporulates

Spores float up into the atmosphere

Temperature between 15 and 27˚C

Humidity is above 93%

Mature plants have large yield losses

November
December
January
February
March

For more information please visit

beattheblastews.net

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