II. DISEASE OF FORAGE AND OTHER FIELD CROPS

A. FORAGE LEGUMES

ALFALFA

Alfalfa Diseases in British Columbia in 1958

E.J. Hawn

Alfalfa stands in the Waldo, Cranbrook, Kootenay, Kamloops, Salmon Arm, and Armstrong districts of British Columbia were examined for disease in September.

Bacterial Wilt (Corynebacterium insidiosum) was moderate to severe in the older stands in the Jaffray, Creston, Kelowna, Falkland, Monte Lake, Kamloops, Chase, and Salmon Arm districts.

Crown Bud Rot (Rhizoctonia solani, Fusarium roseum, Ascochyta imperfecta) was moderate to severe in stands over one year old at Jaffray, Creston, Kelowna, and Kamloops.

Witches' Broom (virus) was present and moderate to severe in intensity at Monte Lake, Chase, and at Kamloops.

Boron deficiency symptoms were observed in the Salmon Arm area in a first year stand of alfalfa at the Experimental Substation at Creston.

Alfalfa Stem Nematode in Southern Alberta

E.J. Hawn

For the first time since 1950 the alfalfa stem nematode (Ditylenchus dipsaci Kühn) has been found in alfalfa test plots at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm. Microscopic examination of infested crown buds and shoots has shown the pest to be present in large numbers and in all stages of development. Patches of severely infested Grimm plants have been found in one- and two-year-old plots. However, spot checks made on stands in the main alfalfa-growing areas in southern Alberta have failed to detect the disease.

Other Observations

BLACK STEM (Ascochyta imperfecta) ratings in s. Alta. were 4-tr., 5-sl., 1-mod./33 fields (E.J. Hawn). In central Alta. 7/12 fields had tr.-sl. infections (N. Colotelo). This disease developed slowly in Sask. during June and July. All 55 fields examined were affected. The average damage was moderate. Severe infections were recorded at Swift Current and Snowden in September (H.W. Mead). Hay fields in s.-w. Man. had tr.-mod. infections (W.C. McDonald).