



Yellow Rust

Why in News //



In sub-mountainous parts of Punjab and Haryana, yellow rust disease has been detected in the wheat crop which has raised concerns among farmers about a drop in the crop's yield.

Key Points

- **Yellow rust or stripe rust** is a **fungal disease** which attacks the leaves of **wheat crop** by forming **yellow stripes** and **affects their photosynthesis** that causes **shrivelling of grain size**.
- It is a disease of **cool weather in the northern hills** and **north-western plains zone**.
- The **recent rains** in the region coupled with a slight **increase in the temperature** and **humid conditions** are **favourable** for yellow rust.

Wheat

Major Wheat Producing States



- **Temperature:** Between 10-15°C (Sowing time) and 21-26°C (Ripening & Harvesting) with bright sunlight.
- **Rainfall:** Around 75-100 cm.
- **Soil Type:** Well-drained fertile loamy and clayey loamy (Ganga-Satluj plains and black soil region of the Deccan)
- **Top Wheat Producing States:** Uttar Pradesh > Punjab > Madhya Pradesh > Haryana > Rajasthan.
- It is a **rabi (winter) crop**, is sown between late October till December while the harvesting of the crop starts from April onwards.
- India is the **second-largest producer after** China.
- This is the **second most important cereal crop** and the main food crop, in the north and north-western India.
- The **success of Green Revolution** contributed to the growth of Rabi crops especially wheat.
- **Government initiatives to support wheat cultivation:** Macro Management Mode of Agriculture, [National Food Security Mission](#) and [Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana](#).

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