

Corn Gray Leaf Spot

With the recent weather pattern in the western Corn Belt it is setting up the perfect environment for Gray leaf spot. Gray leaf spot is one of the biggest yield-robbing corn diseases we face in the U.S. Gray leaf spot can rapidly increase when we see warm temperatures 70-90 degrees, high humidity greater than 90% or periods of prolonged leaf wetness over 12 hours. The chances of Gray leaf spot also increase greatly in fields with corn-on-corn rotations with minimal tillage due to pathogens left in crop debris.

What to look for:

- Gray leaf spot starts in the lower canopy and progresses up
- Lesions begin as small oval, light-tan spots before expanding into long, narrow, rectangular lesions
- Lesions typically expand parallel to leaf veins and later turn gray
- Yellow or orange halos may surround the lesions
- Gray leaf spot can be confused with bacterial leaf streak, gray leaf spot will have smooth linear margins

Gray leaf spot causes yield impact by reducing the corn plants photosynthetic area effecting carbohydrate production needed for kernel development. Additionally the reduction in photosynthetic leaf area results in carbohydrates being scavenged from the stalks predisposing the plant to stalk rots and lodging



Gray leaf spot infected leaf

Corn Hybrids do confer some levels of resistance. However there are truly no resistant or immune hybrids. Golden Harvest corn hybrids each have a specific rating for its genetic ability to handle Gray leaf spot. Fungicide applications do provide a very effective method of control. Treatment is recommended using a proven product with good activity on Gray leaf spot when lesions are present at the ear leaves 2 weeks prior to and after tasseling.

Gray Leaf Spot Ratings for Golden Harvest Corn Products

1-9 Scale 1-best, 9-worse

G07F23	3	G11F16	4
G07B39	5	G13E90	6
G07V88	5	G13N18	6
G08D29	4	G13T41	4
G09Y24	5	G14K50	6
G10C45	3	G14N11	5
G10S30	6	G14V04	4
G10K03	5	G15L32	3
G10L16	4	G16K01	5
G11B63	4	G18D87	3

For Golden Harvest ratings on Gray Leaf Spot, 1 is the best and represents hybrids with the best tolerance to Gray Leaf Spot, with 9 representing the worst tolerance to Gray Leaf Spot.

In Kansas and Eastern Colorado, to prevent economical yield loss from Gray Leaf Spot, I would recommend managing Golden Harvest hybrids as follows:

Rating of 5 or 6: apply fungicide when lesions appear on the 3rd leaf below the ear leaf

Rating of 3 or 4: apply fungicide when lesions appear on the 2nd leaf below the ear leaf

Rating of 1 or 2: apply fungicide when lesions appear on the 1st leaf below the ear leaf

References:

[University of Nebraska Gray Leaf Spot of Corn Extension Publication.unl.edu](http://www.unl.edu/grayleafspot/)

[Syngenta Know More Grow More Get Early Control of Gray Leaf Spot.](#)

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Some seed treatment offers are separately registered products applied to the seed as a combined slurry. **Always read individual product labels and treater instructions before combining and applying component products.** Miravis Ace is sold as a combination of separately registered products: Miravis Ace A and Miravis Ace B fungicides. Orondis Gold is a combination of separately registered products: Orondis Gold 200 and Orondis Gold B. Orondis Ridomil Gold is a combination of separately registered products: Orondis Gold 200 and Ridomil Gold SL.

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