

Disease Scouting Seasonal Guide

Disease Scouting in Hemp by Growth Stage, Plant Part, and Season

Emergence/Seedling Vegetative Flowering/Seed Set Damping Off Pythium spp. Rhizoctonia solani **Leaf Spots Stem/Crown Infections Bipolaris** Sclerotinia sclerotiorum (White mold) Cercospora spp. Macrophomina Curvularia spp. phaseolina (Charcoal rot) Phomopsis ganjae Fusarium spp. (Fusarium Colletotrichum spp. wilt and crown rot) Septoria spp. Sclerotium rolfsii Golovinomyces (Southern blight) spp. (Powdery mildew) **Bud Rots** Botrytis cinerea (Gray mold) Fusarium spp. (Bud rot)

APRIL-MAY JUNE JULY-AUG-SEPT





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Hemp pathogens can affect field crops at any stage of growth, regardless of their purpose (grain, fiber, or flower). Therefore, scouting for diseases in the field is critical for implementing early and accurate management actions to reduce pathogen proliferation and minimize potential damage. Maintaining a scouting calendar in hemp is crucial for implementing preventive measures such as crop rotation, use of tolerant or resistant varieties, and adjusting planting dates to mitigate disease outbreaks. Additionally, disease monitoring through continual scouting offers valuable insights into disease trends and patterns over time, facilitating the development of effective long-term disease management strategies.

The University of Illinois Plant Clinic, in collaboration with the Midwestern Hemp Research collaborative and supported by United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture grants, is offering free pest and pathogen identification in hemp crops from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Please include a "Free Hemp Samples" submission form the with sample, available on the Plant Clinic's website: https://extension.illinois.edu/plant-clinic/forms. Samples must be received by August 30, 2026 to be included in this program.







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