



UW-Extension Team Grains is conducting a survey of corn fields for late season ear molds. Samples will be submitted to the UW-Madison Plant Disease and Diagnostic Clinic for processing.

Protocol:

- 1) **CURRENT:** The first 100 samples will be accepted for testing and processing. This is subject to change.
- 2) Notify Paul Esker (Email: paul.esker@ces.uwex.edu), Field Crops Extension Plant Pathologist, of your intention to participate in the survey.
 - a. Indicate the number of fields in a given county that will be sampled and submitted
- 3) At a minimum, the following field history information is required with each sample:
 - a. Field location (GPS coordinates OR Section, Township)
 - b. Corn hybrid
 - c. Planting date
 - d. Soil type
 - e. Tillage
 - f. Fungicide application
 - i. Note: if a fungicide application was made the grower left a check strip, take samples from the area where the fungicide was applied **separately** from the area where no fungicide was applied.
- 4) Collect two 5-ear samples per field (total of 10 ears).
 - a. Take the two subsamples from different parts of the field.
 - b. Within each subsample, do not take ears consecutively; rather, take samples using a "M" pattern, with samples obtained at each node.
 - c. If there was a fungicide application, please take two different groups of samples (i.e., total of 20 ears) and indicate which sample is from each area.
- 5) If possible, take digital photos of representative ears.
- 6) Place the 10 ears into a box and use crumpled paper as packing material. DO NOT pack the ears in plastic bags.
- 7) Ship the ears overnight to:

Plant Disease and Diagnostic Clinic
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Attn: 2009 Team Grains Corn Ear Mold Survey
1630 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706
- 8) Reports will be provided that indicate the pathogen(s) identified. This information should be collated with field history information and sent electronically to Paul Esker to summarize.

