

**INFLUENCE OF SOWING TIME ON THE FUSARIUM HEAD BLIGHT IN TRITICALE**Pollo B<sup>1</sup>, Lima MIPM<sup>2</sup>, Nascimento Junior A<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup> Biotrigo Genética, Passo Fundo, RS, Brazil; <sup>2</sup> Embrapa Trigo, Passo Fundo, RS, Brazil

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Fusarium head blight (FHB), caused by *Gibberella zeae* (*Fusarium graminearum*), affects triticale spikes, reducing the production and the quality of grains and by-products. The objective of this study was to evaluate the influence of sowing dates on the intensity of the FHB. The experiment was conducted in the field at Wheat Embrapa, in Passo Fundo, in 2013, with four genotypes (BRS 203, BRS Harmonia, BRS Minotauro and PFT 1212) in four sowing dates (11<sup>th</sup> June, 03<sup>rd</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> July). The plots were constituted of three rows of 3.00 m spaced by 0.20 m. The disease control was carried out until the booting stage. Thirty spikes of each cultivar in pre-flowering stage were inoculated in the central spikelet by injection of 0.025 mL of *F. graminearum* suspension at concentration of  $5 \times 10^4$  conidia mL<sup>-1</sup> with syringe Dosys™ Classic 173. The real severity was assessed every two or three days by counting the number of affected spikelet, until the stage of grain soft dough. Means were compared by Tukey test at 1% probability with the statistical program Bioestat 5.0. In the first sowing, BRS 203, BRS Minotauro and PFT 1212 were statistically equal showing the highest severity values. In the second sowing there was no statistical difference between the genotypes while the third, BRS Minotauro was statistically different from the others, with the greatest severity. In the fourth sowing, BRS 203 and PFT 1212 were statistically equal with the lowest severity and BRS Harmonia and BRS Minotauro did not differ statistically, with the greatest severity of FHB. The interaction of intensity was not obtained just in the second sowing. The maximum values of average severity obtained, for each genotype, in this work support to consider them as susceptible.

Keywords: *Gibberella zeae*; *Fusarium graminearum*; management