Cereal Diseases

Loose smut of wheat was found frequently and abundantly in Lee, infrequently and only in trace amounts in durum varieties, and not at all in Selkirk and Thatcher. This smut is largely under control in the province because of the wide distribution of the highly resistant Selkirk wheat.

Smut in barley was mainly of the floral infecting type (loose smut) and occurred in all varieties. This smut is of particular concern because of the lack of resistance in currently grown varieties and the impracticability of large-scale seed treatment by existing methods.

Oat smut was negligible in amount apparently as a result of the wide distribution of the highly resistant Rodney and Garry oats.

Records of cars of wheat graded "Smutty" by the Western Inspections Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners indicate that the incidence of bunt of wheat in the 1958 crop is below the average of the past 10-year period (Table 6).

Table 6. Bunt of Wheat in Western Canada

|                   | Aug. 1, 1957 to July 31, 1958 |                              |                                  | Aug. 1, 1958 to Oct. 31, 1958 |                              |                                    |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Class of<br>Wheat | Cars<br>inspected             | Cars<br>graded<br>''Smutty'' | Percentage<br>graded<br>"Smutty" | Cars<br>inspected             | Cars<br>graded<br>''Smutty'' | Percentage<br>graded<br>''Smutty'' |
|                   | 10= 040                       |                              | 0.05                             | 20.00=                        | 10                           | 0.05                               |
| Hard Red Spring   | 187,842                       | 133                          | 0.07                             | 39,007                        | 18                           | 0.05                               |
| Amber Durum       | 11,616                        | 9                            | 0.08                             | 952                           | 0                            | 0.00                               |
| White Spring      | 210                           | 0                            | 0.00                             | 55                            | 0                            | 0.00                               |
| Alta. Red Winter  | 216                           | 24                           | 11.11                            | 108                           | 1                            | 0.92                               |
| Garnet            | 23                            | 0                            | 0.00                             | 1                             | 0                            | 0.00                               |
| Mixed Wheat       | 123                           | 1                            | 0.81                             | 19                            | 0                            | 0.00                               |
| All Classes       | 200,030                       | 167                          | 0.08                             | 40,142                        | 19                           | 0.05                               |

## Dwarf Bunt in Simcoe County, Ontario in 1958

R. J. Baylis

Five townships in Simcoe County were surveyed in mid-July for incidence of dwarf bunt in winter wheat. Dwarf bunt was found in 10/34 fields representing a total of 500 acres surveyed. In general, infestations were in trace amounts at the edges of fields. Two instances of severe (1.0%) rating were found on farms that had a previous record of dwarf bunt, and in the same area near Stayner, as previously noted (C.P.D.S. Ann. Rept. 37:27. 1957 (1958)). In one of the fields rated severe, dwarf bunt was observed throughout the 6-acre stand of a heavily awned type of wheat which possibly was Dawson's Golden Chaff or Dawbul. Dwarf bunt was not observed in the Ottawa Valley.