

Ergot of grains and grasses

Office of Cereal Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Dept. of Agriculture - Recent investigations of ergot alkaloids incorporated into plant and/or animal systems



Description: -

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Lacquer and lacquering -- Russia (Federation) -- Palekh
Grasses -- Diseases and pests.
Grain -- Diseases and pests.
Claviceps.
Ergot.Ergot of grains and grasses
-Ergot of grains and grasses
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Ergot in Small Grains — Publications

There are tolerances for ergot levels and they vary from crop species to crop species.

Ergot in Small Grains and Grasses: 6 Considerations

Prevention is the best management strategy, but it is too late to practice once ergot symptoms have been observed.

Ergot of Cereals and Grasses

Cool weather favors increased disease levels by extending the flowering period and thereby increasing the period of infection. In humans, ergot consumption also leads to reduced blood flow to outer extremities fingers, hands, feet, etc.

Bulletin #1014, Ergot of Barley and Other Small Grains

Tim Evans, University of Missouri Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, suggests taking a representative sample of hay that fills a large garbage bag, or a gallon of hay probings with a large diameter probe e.

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Michelle Mostrom, NDSU Figure 5. Within 10 days of flower infection, sclerotia begin to form and the infected seed ovary is replaced with a hardened dark ergot body.

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For example, an alkaloid present in high concentrations in ergots from Europe east of the Rhine may have caused convulsive ergotism, while ergot

from the west caused epidemics of gangrenous ergotism. Ergot has a long documented history of being toxic to animals and humans. Biology The ergot pathogen overwinters as black ergot bodies that are actually sclerotia rough black masses of hardened fungal mycelium of *Claviceps purpurea*.

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