

In 2014 wheat leaf rust was at very low levels in the Great Plains region due to very dry conditions and cool temperatures during April and May. In Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska the extreme drought conditions reduced wheat yields and greatly reduced the incidence and severity of leaf rust. In the spring region of South Dakota, North Dakota, and Minnesota cool summer temperatures combined with low amounts of inoculum from the southern plains region resulted in lower incidence and severity of leaf rust. In the southeast and mid Atlantic region wheat leaf rust was more widespread but generally at low levels. The cultivar Shirley postulated to have gene *Lr18* was reported to have higher leaf rust severity than in previous years at some locations. No significant losses due to leaf rust were reported in 2014 due to the unfavorable weather conditions throughout much of the United States.

In the southern and central Great Plains region, leaf rust races with virulence to *Lr39/41* and *Lr17* were the most common races. In the northern spring wheat area races with virulence to *Lr21*, *Lr26*, and *Lr39/41* were the most common. In the southeastern states and Ohio Valley region races with virulence to *Lr11*, *Lr18*, and *Lr26* were the most common.