Wheat is in hard dough stage; 
Rust and Holcus Spot seen in corn

Jill Scheidt, agronomy specialist with University of Missouri Extension in Barton County, scouted area fields on June 26 to prepare this week’s field scouting report.

Based on her scouting stops this week, Scheidt says wheat is in the hard dough stage.

“Producers who are thinking about harvesting early should proceed with caution. If harvesting wet wheat, producers should dry wheat as it is going into the bin and make sure the first load is completely dry before adding more wheat,” said Scheidt.

If the grain bin is filled all at once, the wheat at the top of the bin will not dry and may sprout due to humid conditions that occur in June and July. Harvest wheat at 13.5% moisture in order to prevent fungus development in the storage bin.

This week, Scheidt did find signs of deer and birds feeding in soybeans.

“If the leaves and cotyledons are completely eaten, it is very likely the plant will not come back. This is usually not too big of a problem,” said Scheidt.

Rust and holcus spot were seen in corn; however, neither are a big concern. Holcus spot is identified by elliptical to round lesions on the leaves. The tan colored lesions appear watersoaked and larger lesions often have a yellow halo around the border and look similar to chemical drift.

Holcus Spot on corn.

Armyworm feeding was also seen in corn. Armyworm feeding can be identified by irregular and pinhole shaped holes where armyworms have fed inside the whorl. Treatment is justified when 25 percent of corn seedlings are damaged.

“I have also been getting a lot of calls about poison hemlock and Queen Ann’s lace in pastures. Poison hemlock has hairs and purple or red blotches on the stem and has a hollow stem. Queen Ann’s lace is hairless and solid green on the stem. Poison hemlock is toxic to livestock and can be toxic when baled if livestock eat enough of it,” said Scheidt.

MORE INFORMATION
The weekly field scouting report is sponsored by University of Missouri Extension and Barton County Extension. For more information on this scouting report, or to learn how to receive it a week earlier by telephone, contact the MU Extension Center in Barton County, (417) 682-3579.