

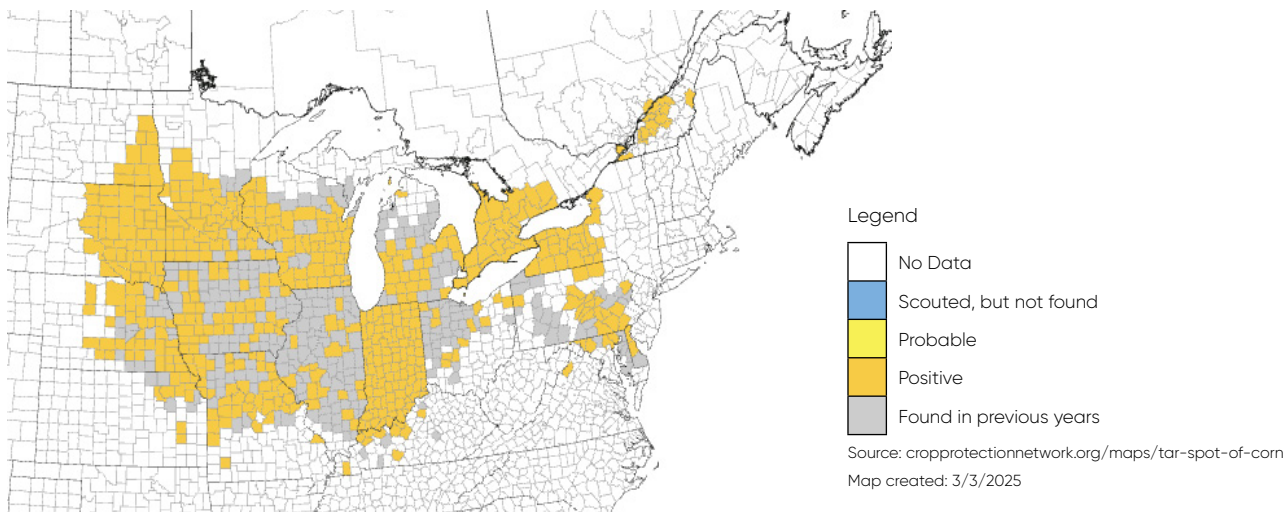
# MANAGING TAR SPOT

**"Combining high yielding tolerant hybrids with effective, well-timed fungicides will provide the best management of tar spot."**

– Albert Tenuta , Field Crop Pathologist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness

Tar spot has been rapidly advancing through Ontario and Quebec. This corn disease can significantly reduce yield, test weight, silage quality and plant standability.

## Tar Spot Distribution



## Managing Tar Spot with Fungicides

Selecting an effective fungicide and applying it at the right time is critical. Selecting fungicides with multiple modes of action are the most effective and can help reduce fungicide resistance risk.

## Fungicide Timing

Fungicides need to be applied prior or in early stages of the disease infection and may prevent infection for 2-3 weeks after application. Therefore, fungicides need to be applied when the risk of infection is high.

Tar spot forecasting models are useful tools for identifying when the risk of infection is considered high. Combining these new technologies with tolerant hybrids and effective, well-timed fungicides will provide the best management of tar spot.

**"Current Ontario and U.S. data indicates that fungicides applied between tasseling (VT) and silking (R1) will provide more consistent control of tar spot when the risk of infection is high. Fortunately, this is also the optimum application timing for other common leaf diseases like northern corn leaf blight and a targeted green silk application for Gibberella ear rot (DON)."**

– Albert Tenuta, Field Crop Pathologist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness

While certain fungicides have shown effectiveness, proper application methods and timing is critical for successful management. Be sure to consider your farm's risk for other diseases like northern corn leaf blight, Gibberella ear rot and DON mycotoxin risk in fungicide selection and application timing decisions.

# FUNGICIDE SELECTION

## Fungicide Efficacy for Control of Corn Diseases

The Corn Disease Working Group (CDWG) developed ratings for how well fungicides control major corn diseases in the U.S. and Canada. The CDWG determined efficacy ratings for each fungicide listed in the table by field testing the materials over multiple years and locations. The table is not intended to be a list of all labeled products. Additional fungicides are labeled for disease on corn.

### Corn Disease Working Group Fungicide Ratings for Major Corn Diseases in the U.S. & Canada<sup>1</sup>

Class	Active Ingredient	Product/Trade Name (Canada)	Anthracnose Leaf Blight	Common Rust	Eyespot	Gray Leaf Spot	Northern Corn Leaf Blight	Tar Spot
QoI Strobilurins Group 11	Pyraclostrobin	Headline EC/SC	VG	E	E	E	VG	NL
	Picoxystrobin	Acapela Fungicide	VG	VG-E	VG	F-VG	VG	G * (S)
DMI Triazoles Group 3	Propiconazole	Tilt 250E Multiple Generics	NL	VG	E	G	G	NL
	Prothioconazole	Proline 480 SC	U	VG	E	U	VG	NL
Indicates Products with Mixed Fungicide Classes	3	Mefentrifluconazole	Veltyma	U	U	VG-E	VG-E	VG **
	11	Pyraclostrobin						
	3	Mefentrifluconazole	Veltyma DLX*	U	U	VG-E	VG-E	VG-E **
	11	Pyraclostrobin						
	7	Metconazole						
	3	Prothioconazole	Delaro 325 SC	E	VG	E	VG	NL
	11	Trifloxystrobin						
	3	Prothioconazole	Delaro Complete 3.83 SC	U	U	E	VG-E	VG **
	11	Trifloxystrobin						
	7	Fluopyram						
	7	Pydiflumetofen	Miravis Neo	U	U	E	VG-E	G/VG * (S)
	11	Azoxystrobin						
	3	Propiconazole						
	7	Fluxapyroxad	Priaxor	VG	U	VG	VG-E	NL
	11	Pyraclostrobin						
	11	Pyraclostrobin	Headline AMP	E	E	E	VG	NL (G/VG)
	3	Metconazole						

<sup>1</sup> Fungicide application timing is extremely important and needs to be made near the onset of the tar spot symptoms. Efficacy ratings based on site locations from 2018 to 2024.  
Source: Corn Disease Working Group

#### Efficacy categories:

NR = Not Recommended    F = Fair    VG = Very Good    NL = Not Labeled for use against this disease  
P = Poor    G = Good    E = Excellent    U = Unknown efficacy or insufficient data to rank product



## Resources

- Crop Protection Network - [Cropprotectionnetwork.org](https://cropprotectionnetwork.org)
- Ontario Crop Protection Hub - [Cropprotectionhub.omafr.gov.on.ca](https://cropprotectionhub.omafr.gov.on.ca)
- Local Pioneer Field Agronomist or Sales Representative