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EC113 Seed Treatment for Stinking Smut (Bunt) in Wheat

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SEED TREATMENT FOR STINKING SMUT (Bunt) IN WHEAT

Soaking method: Run the seed thru a good fanning mill before treatment. This will remove many of the shriveled and light weight kernels, spore balls, Many of the free smut spores, and dirt. Make up a solution consisting of 1 pint Formalin to 35 gallons of water. Put the seed in loosely filled burlap sacks, dip into the solution and soak for five minutes. Drain on slats over the barrels or tanks to prevent wasting the solution. Place the seed on a clean floor or canvas, and cover with sacks or canvas for two hours. Dry by spreading in a thin layer and stirring occasionally with a rake or shovel. If the seed is sown when swollen, open the drill to offset this. Disinfect the drill with a one to 10 solution of Formalin. It is recommended that Formalin in sealed bottles be purchased.

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Sprinkling method: This method is not as effective as the soaking method and is not to be recommended when the soaking method can be used. Where the wheat is only slightly affected and it is run thru a fanning mill with a good air blast to remove the spore balls this method may be successfully used.

Sprinkle on the seed a solution of one pint of formalin to 35 gallons of water, using about one gallon to the bushel, shoveling over at the same time to make sure of uniform wetting. Cover in a pile with bags or canvas and handle as in the soaking method. The effectiveness of this treatment depends on the thoro wetting of each seed. If the seed is swollen, open the drill to offset this. Disinfect the drill with a one to 10 solution of Formalin. It is recommended that Formalin in sealed bottles be purchased.

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