

Don't Let Tar Spot Ruin Your Season



“This generation of farmers has never had to face this kind of disease.”¹

Tar spot was likely the most costly corn disease in the 2022 season, and its spores are currently overwintering, awaiting an opportunity to cause potentially greater damage in 2023. Tar spot infections flourish in cooler temperatures (60-70°F) and high relative humidity (>75%). This devastating disease is wind dispersed, with leaves being completely covered in just three to four weeks after infection. Waiting until visual symptoms appear is too late in terms of yield loss. Veltyma[®] fungicide is the best of all worlds. Its expanded application window and long residual protection make it an excellent tool in the battle against tar spot, as well as other yield-limiting diseases.



In severe cases of tar spot infection, LOSSES OF 50 BUSHELS PER ACRE or more have been observed.²



Observations have shown that upper leaves can be infected first, indicating SPORES CAN BE SPREAD AND DEPOSITED BY WIND. IN SOME CASES, UP TO 80 YARDS (240 FT).³



In 2015, tar spot was almost non-existent. Since then, the disease has become more widespread, and as of the end of 2021 it has now been reported in 14 STATES.²

Sources:

¹ University expert

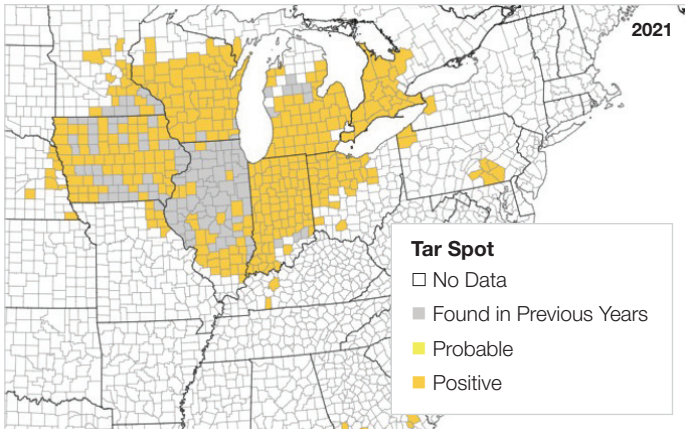
² Integrated Pest Management “Tar Spot.” Corn IpmPIPE, 9 June 2021, <https://corn.ipmPIPE.org/tar-spot/>. Telenko, Darcy. Crop Protection Network, May 2020, <https://cropprotectionnetwork.org/resources/publications/tar-spot>.

³ <https://www.farmprogress.com/crop-disease/tar-spot-its-coming-field-near-you>

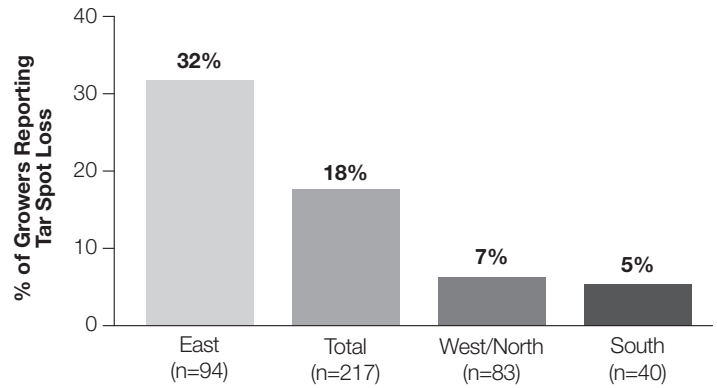


Tar Spot Research

- Tar spot and grey leaf spot are more prevalent in the East compared to West/North and South.
- ~32% of growers in the East experienced Tar Spot in their fields in 2021.



Tar Spot Presence in 2021



2021 Trial, Market Intelligence Group



Search Trends and Social Media Mentions

3.8K

Tar Spot Keyword Searches/Month

14.2K

Tar Spot Social Media Posts



From Our Customers

Farmers Talking to Farmers Panel (Forward Group): When asked about the weeds and pests issues in 2022, Tar Spot was mentioned.

- **Tar Spot is a growing concern** for those farmers in the northern half of the corn-belt. Those further south have heard very little about the disease. While those who have experienced or had neighbors experience it, suggest that the effect can be **mitigated with timely applications**, it requires **immediate decisive action**, or it can be **devastating**.

“...2 applications of fungicides, last applied soon after tassel. No tar spot found until 2 weeks after last application. 2 weeks later and the entire field is “covered up”. This disease has my attention...”

@bobkemerait, Professor and Extension Specialist, Dept. of Plant Pathology, UGA

“Tar spot is prevalent in our area; we grow wheat, corn, and soybeans. Normally, we use fungicide on our corn. But a couple years ago we didn’t, and tar spot overtook about 200 acres.”

Jeff R., Miami, IN



For more information on managing Tar Spot, scan this QR code to watch a video, or visit [GrowSmartLive.com](https://www.basf.com/grow-smart-live).

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