

Pre-harvest roundtable

Discussed major challenges for
several areas of pre-harvest
management

Main topics

- Predictive Modeling
- Biocontrol
- Fungicide
- Resistance Breeding

Predictive modeling

- Access to weather data
- Sustainability of models delivered to clientele (how to pay for operating them)
- Applicability to different geographic areas
- Implementing models into practice (delivery method for predictions) – e.g., access to subsistence farmers
- Insufficient data for mechanistic (explanatory) model development

Biocontrol

- Regulatory approval and public acceptance
- Technology transfer
- Scale-up of production
- Commercial viability
- Access to known biocontrol strains
- Training for agronomists/regulatory people

Fungicides

- Need for new compounds
- Adequate systemic activity
- Application technology
- Understanding pathogen biology
- Resistance management
- Seed treatment
- Unbiased information available to farmers
- Compatibility with biocontrol

Resistance Breeding

- Establishing priorities for sustained effort in resistance breeding
- Need for multi-toxin resistance
- Better and more rapid phenotyping methods
- Agronomic characters of resistant lines
- Few major genes available
- Difficulty in breeding of multi-gene traits
- Understanding infection pathways
- Few breeders willing to work with toxigenic fungi