Factors impacting blackleg development in field

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In order to identify the most determining factors for blackleg development in field, seven field trials have been managed during a three year period. A multiple linear regression analysis has been run on the dataset regarding two different dependent variables: (i) period between emergence and disease outbreak and (ii) overall blackleg incidence.

The results revealed that, the most determining factors for disease outbreak are evapotranspiration, soil moisture and Mg input. Concerning the whole season, cultivar susceptibility, isolate aggressiveness and inoculum concentration appeared as the most important factors affecting blackleg development.