UW-Extension Team Grains is conducting a survey of corn fields for late season ear molds. Samples will be submitted to the UW-Madison Plant Disease and Diagnostic Clinic for processing.

Protocol:

1) **CURRENT**: The first 100 samples will be accepted for testing and processing. This is subject to change.

2) Notify Paul Esker (Email: paul.esker@ces.uwex.edu), Field Crops Extension Plant Pathologist, of your intention to participate in the survey.
   a. Indicate the number of fields in a given county that will be sampled and submitted

3) At a minimum, the following field history information is required with each sample:
   a. Field location (GPS coordinates OR Section, Township)
   b. Corn hybrid
   c. Planting date
   d. Soil type
   e. Tillage
   f. Fungicide application
      i. Note: if a fungicide application was made the grower left a check strip, take samples from the area where the fungicide was applied **separately** from the area where no fungicide was applied.

4) Collect two 5-ear samples per field (total of 10 ears).
   a. Take the two subsamples from different parts of the field.
   b. Within each subsample, do not take ears consecutively; rather, take samples using a “M” pattern, with samples obtained at each node.
   c. If there was a fungicide application, please take two different groups of samples (i.e., total of 20 ears) and indicate which sample is from each area.

5) If possible, take digital photos of representative ears.

6) Place the 10 ears into a box and use crumpled paper as packing material. DO NOT pack the ears in plastic bags.

7) Ship the ears **overnight** to:

   Plant Disease and Diagnostic Clinic
   University of Wisconsin-Madison
   Attn: 2009 Team Grains Corn Ear Mold Survey
   1630 Linden Drive
   Madison, WI 53706

8) Reports will be provided that indicate the pathogen(s) identified. This information should be collated with field history information and sent electronically to Paul Esker to summarize.