

Field level (low spots)



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What it does

Low spots in the field have softer soils, causing problems of seed emergence. In unlevelled fields, when the field dries, snails group together at the low spot. The flat even surface allows a uniform germination of the seeds and a good crop stand.

Why and where does it occur

The problem occurs due to unevenness of fields and the spots where the level of the field is lower, lead to water ponding in those lower level areas of the field. The problems arising from low spots tends to be more serious in direct-seeded fields.

How to identify

Check the field level. When there are low spots:

- Parts of the field are lower than the surrounding area and lower than the average elevation of the entire field
- Plants at these points often have crop stand problems as they are focal points for snail attack or crop emergence problems
- Low spots can be identified by the level of water stagnation which generally accumulate more in low lying areas of the field

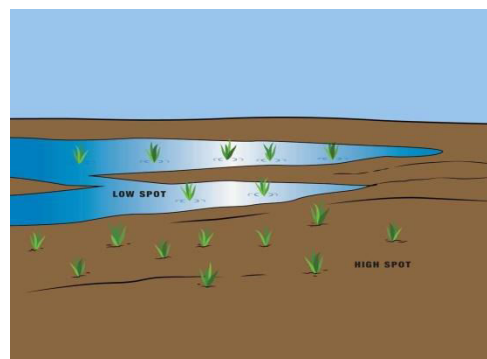
The pattern of damage is usually in patches.

How to manage

- Level the fields properly
- Laser land leveler to be used for proper leveling of the field
- Maintain a flat even surface when ploughing



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