

WINTER WHEAT RUSTS – 2024/25 REVIEW

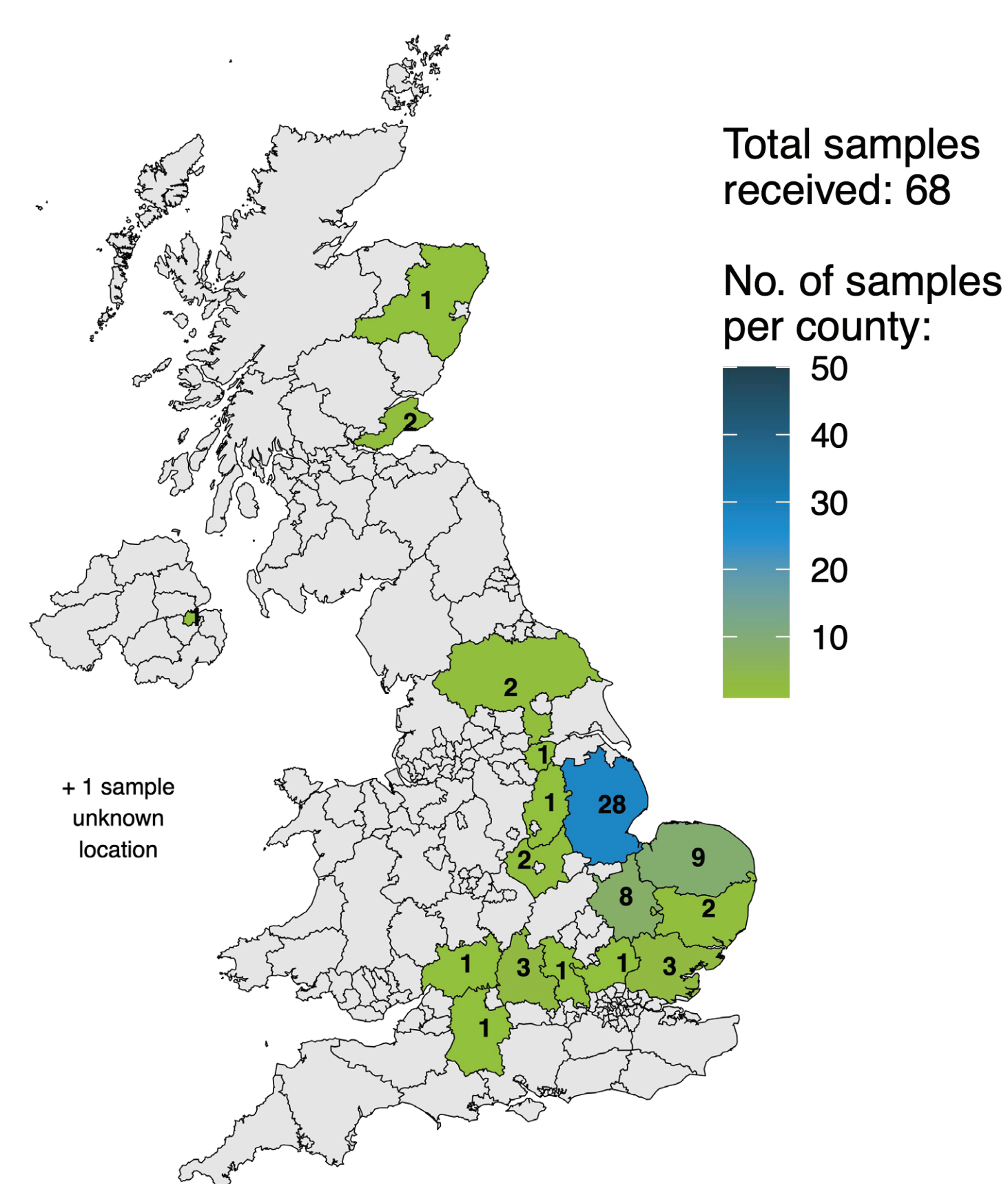


The 2024/25 season saw a surge of wheat brown rust sightings in comparison to previous years. The UK experienced a mild winter which resulted in rusts overwintering, followed by a warm, wet spring conducive for rust development.

Wheat yellow rust

UKCPVS received 68 wheat yellow rust samples across 17 different counties, predominantly from the East of England. Samples were collected from 25 different wheat varieties, mostly consisting of AHDB Recommended List (RL) varieties. 25/68 isolates were tested on the full set of RL varieties and RL candidates, including a panel of differential varieties. No major variety breakdowns were observed in 2024. 17 RL and eight candidate varieties were resistant at the seedling stage. Differential screening of seedlings detected no virulence for Yr5, Yr8, Yr10 and Yr15 amongst the 25 WYR isolates.

Yellow rust samples received 2024

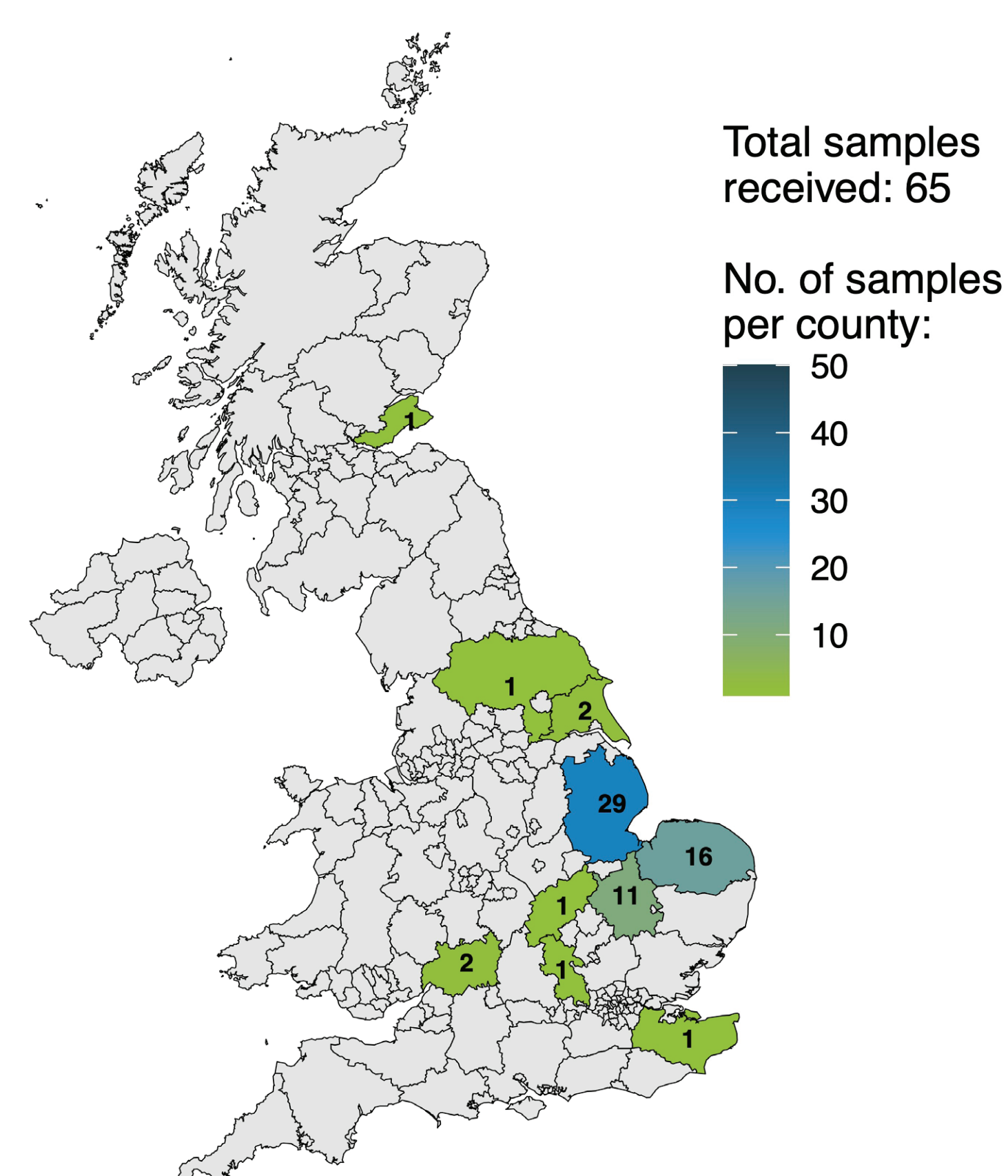


Wheat brown rust

UKCPVS received 65 wheat brown rust samples in 2024, from 10 different counties and 31 varieties which predominantly consisted of RL varieties.

10/65 isolates were tested on the full set of RL varieties and RL candidates, including a panel of differential varieties. No major variety breakdowns were observed in 2024. All RL and candidate varieties were susceptible to at least one wheat brown rust isolate. RGT Goldfinch was resistant to all 10 isolates. Seedling differential tests observed no virulence for Lr2a and Lr2b in the 10 rust isolates tested.

Brown rust samples received 2024



2025 season – current situation

The UK experienced average temperatures and overall above average rainfall during the 2024/25 winter season. In early spring, there were reports of yellow rust on varieties with RL ratings of 9; these sightings were recorded in Lincolnshire, Yorkshire and Scotland.

UKCVPS continues to monitor rust reports and tests a representative subset of isolates on the full set of RL varieties and RL candidates at the young plant stage under field and growth room conditions.

SEND US YOUR RUST SAMPLES!

Samples from any wheat variety can be sent via the FREEPOST UKCPVS service. It is essential to obtain as diverse a set of samples as possible from across the country. Rare and unusual races are often found in only one sample from one location. For more information including sampling instructions and contacts scan the QR code:



The UK Cereal Pathogen Virulence Survey (UKCPVS) monitors cereal rusts in the UK, detecting and warning industry and growers of new races of disease emerging on resistant varieties. It is funded by Defra and AHDB and has been managed by Niab since its inception nearly 60 years ago.