Disease lesions usually begin on the lower (older) plant leaves or mid-canopy. Lesions expand over time to cover more leaf area and spread to more leaves higher on the plant.

When backlit, lesions are often surrounded by a yellow halo.

Bacterial Leaf Streak of corn, caused by the bacterium Xanthomonas vasicola pv. vasculorum, has been observed on field, seed, popcorn, and sweet corn. Lesions may appear similar to other diseases, including some caused by fungi. It’s important to accurately diagnose this and other diseases because treatments with foliar fungicides are not expected to control bacterial pathogens like Xanthomonas.
DIFFERENTIATING BACTERIAL LEAF STREAK FROM OTHER CORN DISEASES

Gray Leaf Spot lesions are rectangular and usually have smooth, linear margins while lesions of Bacterial Leaf Streak are usually wavy.

Bacterial Leaf Streak lesions can be short to very long and are narrow tan, brown, and/or yellow in color and between plant veins.

Northern Corn Leaf Blight lesions are usually larger and cigar-shaped. The middle of lesions may appear dusty and darker as fungal spores are produced.

Bacterial Leaf Streak symptoms on corn.