

IRWIN COUNTY EXTENSION AGRICULTURE NEWS - Vol. 21 Tue. June 28, 2022

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In this issue: Recent, Row Crop Update (2), Lesser Corn Stalk Borer in Peanut, GA Grain News, Tank-Mix/Mixing Problems in Peanut, Important Links and Information

Recent

I am praying for rain. Small portions of the county have received some rain (some a lot of rain), but a majority has not. Farmers are having a hard time keeping up with corn irrigation. Our cotton and peanuts are the battling the heat and dry as well - peak water demand is coming up fast for our cotton and peanuts. Corn rust found next door in Coffee County and also Appling County. Some have made fungicide applications and others have waited. Depending on your stage of corn it might be beneficial for you to make a fungicide application and an insecticide for stink bugs - note pre-harvest intervals (i.e. bifenthrin had a 30-day PHI). We are conducting two studies comparing the product called Top Flow with Dolomitic Lime and also land plaster. Soil testing occurred prior to the application and will continue at various intervals to see the comparisons. We also have a cotton aphid study and peanut fungicide trial going on as well. It has been a busy week with several hot button issues some due to our lack of rain. What a difference a year makes. A famous quote by Paul Harvey says "Man - despite his artistic pretensions, his sophistications, and his many accomplishments - owes his existence to a six-inch layer of topsoil and the fact that it rains." Coming up is the Sunbelt Expo and July 21, 2022 click here for more information <https://sunbeltexpo.com/field-day> As always for more information contact your Irwin County Extension Office.



Aspergillus Crown Rot in peanut – could equal skippy stands or more TSWV



Dr Hand, Wayne Hobbs looking at PGR considerations and found several plant bugs



Irwinville Ag Service with a Top Flow and Dolomitic Lime/land plaster comparison coverage



Matt Tucker working with Dr. Simer Virk flew the drone to show application

Row Crop Update

Kemerait

Southern Corn Rust

As stated above more southern corn rust is being found very close to Irwin County. Wayne County was the first county to find southern corn rust and the agent said the corn in the field where he confirmed rust is at "dough stage", has been sprayed once before with a fungicide soon after found back on June 1st in Wayne County and has good yield potential. The agent asked question is, "should the grower spray again?"

1. The answer to that question is "maybe". The first comment I will make is, "I am really glad the grower sprayed that first fungicide application." Second comment is, "It has been 3 weeks since that first application, so it has played out by now." Third comment is, "I need a better understanding of what is meant by 'dough stage'." If the corn is still at R4 soft dough and even into early R5, then the corn is still far enough away from harvest to be susceptible and given rust in the field and weather, I would be tempted to spray again with an inexpensive fungicide, even tebuconazole, though mixed is better. If the corn is in hard dough, late R5 or R6, I would not consider spraying again.

White mold weather- NOW is the time to protect peanut crops from white mold. Missed opportunities now to implement a solid white mold program could easily lead to significant problems later. Be prepared.

Row Crop Update

Kemerait



Southern Corn Rust



Peanut after herbicide application

It absolutely IS white mold weather in South Georgia- hot and sticky and humid even at night. Especially at night. White mold thrives on this kind of weather. It is fueled by it. The disease is even showing up on cotton and a little on corn.

The picture above shows young peanut plants after herbicide application. So, you are asking, what's that got to do with white mold? Well, let me tell you. In a well-rotated field where risk to white mold is low, such herbicide damage may have nothing to do with white mold. But, as I discussed with Dr Tim Brenneman, early season defoliation leads to production of exudates that can trigger germination and growth of sclerotia that lead to white mold. The weather is already favoring white mold. Short rotation + defoliation raises the stakes higher.

The weather also favors continued development of southern corn rust. While some may see me as "the little boy who cried southern rust", I truly believe our corn crop, especially later planted corn, is at significant risk. Rust will get worse. White mold will get worse. But there are options to manage both of these diseases. Timeliness is key.

Lesser Corn Stalk Borer in Peanut

Abney

Here are a few items that may help you answer grower questions about managing lesser cornstalk borer (LCB) in peanut.

1. **Risk factors** for LCB: skippy stand, later planting date, sandy soil, hot and dry weather. Due to current weather conditions, almost all fields in GA are at risk; fields with additional risk factors are at **high risk**.
2. Rain **does not** kill LCB. Rain will make it hard for you to find silk tubes for a few days, but the insects are still there.
3. Vantacor/Prevathon and Diamond are the **only insecticides recommended** by UGA for LCB management in peanut.
4. Dimilin is **NOT effective** against LCB in peanut.
5. Premix products that contain the same active ingredient as Vantacor (chlorantraniliprole) plus a **pyrethroid significantly increase the risk of spider mites** in hot, dry weather.
6. Vantacor/Prevathon and Diamond **DO NOT** need to be "**watered in**" to be effective. That means we don't have to wait until there is a good chance of rain in non-irrigated fields or turn on pivots in irrigated fields.
7. The **threshold** for LCB in peanut is a live caterpillar or fresh injury at 30% of the stops in a field. Ten stops is adequate in most GA peanut fields, and you should check 3 feet of row at each stop. Watch for LCB **moths** as you walk through the field.
8. If you haven't read the latest **UGA Peanut Entomology Blog post**, it will give you some perspective on the current LCB situation. Here is the link: <https://site.extension.uga.edu/peanutent/2022/06/time-to-scout-peanuts-for-lesser-cornstalk-borer/>



Peanut Insect Update from Cale Cloud Grady County Agent: When scouting peanuts this week, I've found a couple of fields with lesser cornstalk borers feeding on plants. The conditions we have had this week, hot and dry, have been perfect for this pest. The image above on the left is a lesser cornstalk borer larvae, and on the right is the silk tube from an LCB, a tell-tale sign that LCB is in the field and feeding on peanuts.

Georgia Grain News - Corn Etheredge

Important to keep Southern Rust in check as we're seeing it reported in more counties and earlier than ever and this heat drives it on. Later damage is kernel by kernel. Lots of stink bug reports. When they attack it very early we get ear damage and often curling of ears. Importance of irrigation during this heat can't be stressed enough. We could see poor pollination during Silking (R1) and kernel abortion as in photo below during Blister(R2) and Milk(R3) stages and lighter kernels during Dough (R4) and Dent (R5) stages due to this heat especially in the absence of sufficient water.



Below are corn Growth Stages and what can happen during them. Part of below image from "Corn Growth and Development" Iowa State University.



Figure 48. Planar cross-section of kernels.

Silking Blister Milk Dough Dent

Pollination
problems

Kernel Abortion

Kernel weight

This time of year, and with this heat, corn is moving on towards maturity. Photo below shows this field of corn planted March 1st is Denting and at Quarter Milkline, it has accumulated 2500 GDU's. The top or outer quarter of the kernel is now hard and will show up darker. The maturing of the kernel will continue down the kernel until it reaches the base and then the black layer will be formed. We still need 3 weeks until black layer so we still need water, especially in this intense heat.

Here's a plan once we get to this growth stage (Quarter Milkline): Need at least 1.8 inch this week and the next, then can reduce to 1.5 inch a week when we hit ½ milkline and if we are very wet and not as hot and dry at ¾ milk we can cut off watering.



R3 Milk Stage (Roastin' Ear stage)

Highest water use time - 2.4 inches a week

Kernel Abortion still possible.



R4 Dough Stage

Much of Georgia corn is in the milk or dough stages and see graphic above concerning these stages.

Tank- Mix Info/Mixing Order Problems in Peanut

Prostko

- 1) Been getting a lot of questions about the use of COC (1% v/v) vs. NIS (0.25% v/v) with Select/Clethodim 2EC on peanut. Generally, clethodim works better when applied with a COC vs. NIS (~10-15% better on some days). But, COC increases crop injury (see below) especially when hot/dry. In the picture below Dyne-Amic (Helena), is a combination of methylated seed oil (soybean) + organosilicone-based NIS. Growers who are overly concerned about peanut injury could use the other formulations of clethodim (Select Max 0.97EC, Tapout 0.97EC, Intensity One 0.97EC) that already include an adjuvant, can be used with a NIS, and are less likely to cause major leaf burn (*will still get some leaf burn in this weather*).
- 2) Check out this tank-mix. Ouch!! Class Act NG is a NIS + AMS product (Winfield). Praiz 6F is a generic chlorothalonil (Winfield). Domark 1.9ME (tetraconazole), from Gowan, is labeled for early/late leaf spot, web blotch, and rust. In my opinion, the Class Act NG was not really needed and the rate of Dual Magnum could have been reduced to 16 oz/A. **This is a great example of everyone on the planet (me included) not knowing what will happen on any given day when 6 products are tank-mixed together (especially when hot/dry).**
- 3) Somebody asked me about tank-mixing boron with Cadre + DB + Dual Magnum + Priaxor??? Never did it before. See below. Not as bad as I was anticipating but it could be very different on any given day and/or when sprayed later in the PM.
- 4) Mixing order matters!!!!

Important Links and Information

- UGA Extension Publications <https://extension.uga.edu/publications.htm>
- Cotton Production Guides, Corn/Peanut/Soybean Weed Control, Peanut Quick Reference Guides available at our office
- UGA Peanut Production Guide, 2022 Peanut Pest Management, 2022 Disease Risk Assessment Worksheet, Peanut Agronomic Quick Reference, Peanut Scout Handbook, 2022 Peanut Budgets <https://peanuts.caes.uga.edu/>
- 2022 UGA Corn Production Guide (NEW) <https://grains.caes.uga.edu/content/dam/caes-subsite/grains/docs/corn/2022-Corn-Production-Guide.pdf>
- See link for 2022 crop budget information - <https://agecon.uga.edu/extension/budgets.html>
- UGA Irwin County Extension Webpage <https://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/irwin.html>
- Irwin County Extension Agriculture Newsletters – you can find all of our past newsletters by clicking on the link below. <https://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/irwin/agriculture-and-natural-resources/newsletters.html>
- Check your Georgia Private and Commercial Pesticide License credits here <https://agr.georgia.gov/pesticides.aspx>
- Georgia Forages YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL6DgfaB8V2DRnGxzEBxU3w>
- Search find and like us on Facebook UGA Extension – Irwin County and also Irwin County 4-H Club

As always for more information contact your Irwin County Extension Office.

*Praying for Rain, Thank You, God Bless You,
Phillip Edwards - Irwin County Agent*



The mention of trade names in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the Georgia Extension Service, nor criticism of similar ones not mentioned.

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