

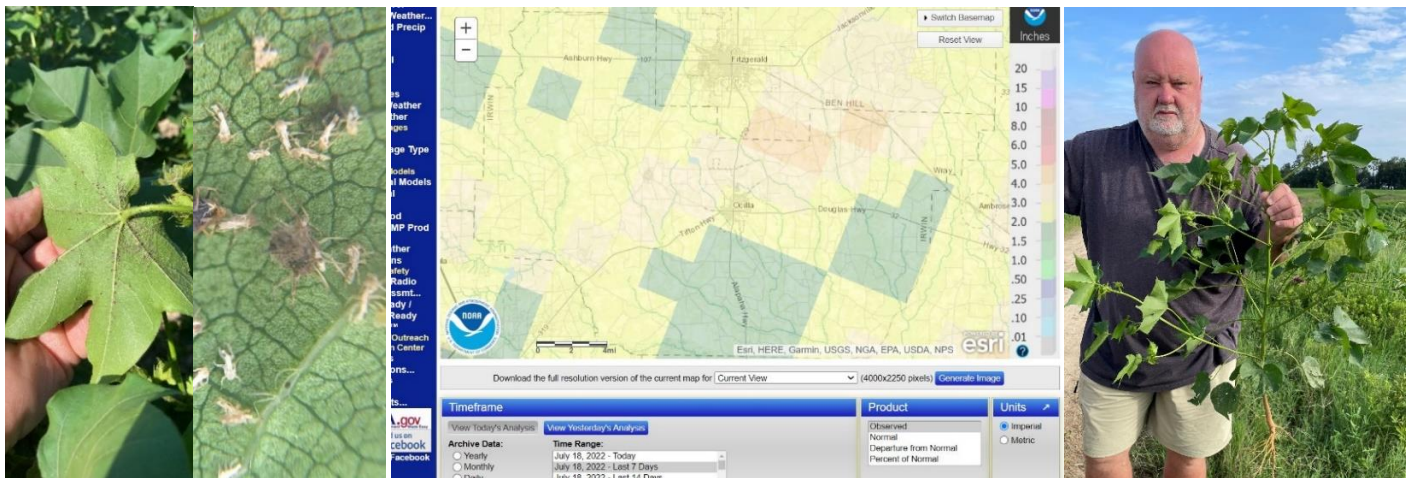
**IRWIN COUNTY EXTENSION AGRICULTURE NEWS - Vol. 23 Tue. July 19, 2022**

**Phillip Edwards Irwin County Extension Coordinator**

*In this issue: Recent, Cotton Futures, July Peanut Pointers Entomology, July Peanut Pointers, FDA Ruling Vet Client Patient Relationship, Crunch Time for Pecan Scab, GA Peanut Tour*

**Recent**

● **Pioneer Field Day today at 11 am at the CASE Farm – lunch provided.** ● Sunbelt Expo date has been moved to Tue. Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> click here for more information <https://www.sunbeltexpo.com> ● UGA Cotton and Peanut Research Field Day will be on Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>. ● Last week our peanut fungicide work was presented in Dallas TX at the American Peanut Research Education Society Meeting. ● The GA Department of AG has lifted the poultry suspension. While the suspension has been lifted, GDA strongly encourages poultry owners to continue practicing strict biosecurity as HPAI remains a threat nationwide. ● The revised 2022 Soybean Guide is now on the web at <https://grains.caes.uga.edu/content/dam/caes-subsite/soybeans/docs/2022-Soybean-Production-Guide.pdf> ● As always for more information contact your Irwin County Extension Office.



Aphid fungus

Rain events for last 7 days check it out <https://water.weather.gov/precip/>

Deciding next PGR application and rate



Irwin County 4-H members attend 4-H Camp at Rock Eagle



4-H Day Camp at office thanks to Irwin County Sheriffs Office for visiting

**What is Behind the Recent Cotton Futures Market Plunge? Liu**

The cotton futures market is on the decline, having experienced a dramatic selloff starting June 17, 2022. As shown in Figure 1, December 2022 Cotton Future prices dropped from the May 17, 2022 high of 134 cents per pound to around 120 cents per pound on June 15, 2022, only to be followed by a plunge to a low of 91.2 cents per pound on June 28, 2022. The selloff has created concerns among cotton producers about this year's profitability. What was the cause of the recent market plunge? Cotton and cotton-related products are discretionary items. Thus, cotton prices tend to follow the economy, with rising cotton prices during economic growth and declining cotton prices during recessions. Many economic indicators point to the direction of a global economic slowdown, with the possibility of a recession in the United States. The S&P 500 index, one of the main indexes for the U.S. stock market, recorded a 20% drop in June from its January closing peak to confirm a bear market. Meanwhile, soaring inflation put

extra pressure on consumers. The annual inflation rate in the U.S. accelerated to 8.6% in May of 2022, the highest since December 1981. Embedded in inflation, energy prices rose 34.6% and food costs surged 10.1%. Severe supply disruptions caused by geopolitical tension and Covid-19 reduced global economic productivity, hindered the ability to meet consumer demand, which resulted in an economic slowdown and high inflation rates globally. The soaring inflation, especially for food and energy, reduced consumer confidence and forced the consumer to rebalance their budgets for spending. The University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment Index, tracking consumer attitudes and expectations about the future economic situation, was downwardly revised to a record low of 50.0 in June of 2022. The U.S. retail sales unexpectedly declined by 0.3% in May. Under high inflation, with the prices of everything rising, the decline in retail sales implies that consumer reduced their spending on discretionary items. This could lead to consumers reducing the purchase of apparel and UGA Cotton Team Newsletter Month 2020 UGA Cotton Team Newsletter July 2022 UGA Cotton Team Newsletter July 2022 apparel-related products. Meanwhile, in response to high inflation, the Federal Reserve increased the federal funds rate to tamp down inflation – on June 15th the Federal Reserve increased interest rates by three-quarters of a percentage point, its largest rate increase since 1994 and the third rate increase in 2022. The Federal Reserve's commitment to bringing inflation back down to its target of 2% indicates a strong possibility of further interest rate hikes in 2022 and 2023. The rising interest rate further accelerated the appreciation of the U.S. dollar, as the U.S. Dollar Index reached its three-year high at 104.01. Cotton is a global commodity; on average, over 80% of cotton produced in the U.S. is exported. The appreciation of the U.S. dollar increases prices paid by foreign consumers and makes U.S. cotton less attractive. All of these concerns contributed to the recent decline in cotton prices from the peak. Additionally, since September of last year, the cotton futures market experienced an inflow of speculative money, which pushed cotton prices to levels that exceed those indicated by supply and demand fundamentals (more information here). The flow of speculative money in and out of cotton markets makes prices unpredictable and volatile. However, with the recent speculative money leaving the cotton market, prices fell sharply, possibly with a temporary correction below the price supported by global cotton supply and demand fundamentals. The impact of this year's global cotton production on prices is yet to be seen. High cotton prices during the planting season attracted more cotton planted acres globally. However, the Southwest United States, the major cotton-producing region in the U.S., is experiencing severe drought and is anticipating lower production this year. Globally, the USDA June forecast for cotton production could reach 121.3 million bales, 4 million bales larger than last year. The projected USDA global ending stocks are maintained at a relatively low level at 82.7 million bales. Lower cotton production in the U.S. could provide some support for harvesting prices domestically. However, with higher global cotton production forecast, global cotton prices could drop further if the U.S. economy enters a recession and stock markets continue to experience losses for the remainder of this year.

#### **July Peanut Pointers: Entomology                      Abney**

The major insect concern in peanut in July will continue to be lesser cornstalk borer. This pest is capable of causing significant yield loss, and late season feeding increases the risk of aflatoxin and Seg 3 peanuts. Scattered rains at the end of June will have some folks wondering if the LCB infestation is over...it is not. Fields that are at threshold should be treated promptly. At this point in the season, we need to be setting pods and making peanuts. LCB feeds on developing pegs and pods; now is not the time to be timid with management decisions. Scout and spray when needed. Irrigated fields that have lapped the row middles should be pretty safe from LCB as long as they receive adequate water. Non-irrigated fields will remain at risk for the remainder of the season. Fields that haven't lapped and/or those with wilted plants will be at highest risk. Not spraying LCB when they are at threshold would be about the same as deciding to stop applying fungicides. In spite of all of our best efforts, I am pretty sure there are non-irrigated peanut fields in Georgia that have been (or will be) treated with at least one pyrethroid insecticide application. This will put those fields at increased risk for two spotted spider mites. For those of you who have heard me talk about mite outbreaks in peanut but have never seen it, it is not pretty. We want to be sure that if/when mites start to show up in peanut we advise growers to avoid bifenthrin. Bifenthrin can be a very useful insecticide, and it has spider mite on its label. DO NOT USE IT. Whether or not we have a problem with mites will come down to the weather and making good decisions. If hot, dry conditions continue, expect mites to start showing up by late July/early August. Fields where infestations are "missed" are likely to be obvious from the road by the end of August. Let us all hope this does not happen. Portal and Comite are miticides registered for use in peanut. Many growers will be looking to treat foliage feeding caterpillars this month. We should continue to encourage folks to scout and treat only when necessary.

#### **July Peanut Pointers                      Monfort**

The peanut crop in Georgia has already gone through some tough times with the high heat and lack of wide-spread rain in late May and June. The question is "Will this extreme weather continue through July and August?". I am optimistic growers will get some needed rain over the next few weeks. Even if we get rain, I would encourage growers to make sure have all peanut fields scouted on a weekly basis. One rain will not reduce the potential problems with lesser cornstalk borer and spider mites. Over the last two weeks, I have received numerous phone calls regarding the use of the growth regulator – Kudos or Apogee on irrigated peanuts. A majority of the questions have been related to application timings and mixing with other products. Prohexadione calcium should not be applied until the canopy is 90%+ lapped for singles and 100% for twin. Sequential applications (3.6 to 5.4 ounces per acre

followed by 3.6 to 5.4 ounces per acre) spaced two weeks apart are recommended in Georgia on runner peanuts. Include a crop oil concentrate (COC, 1 qt/A) and nitrogen solution (UAN) or ammonium sulfate (AMS) at 1pt or 1lb/A to help with plant uptake and consistency of performance. Kudos/Apogee requires eight hours for absorption by the peanut foliage to be effective. Kudos/Apogee is not recommended on plants that are under stress due to lack of moisture, disease pressure, or other stress conditions. With this in mind, Kudos/Apogee is only recommended in irrigated fields. Tank-Mix Considerations Based on communication with Fine-Americas and BASF, Kudos/Apogee has been shown to be compatible with many of the fungicides and insecticides growers utilize in peanut. However, I would encourage growers to leave out the crop oil when mixing with fungicides and insecticides. I did notice a Correct Timing for 1st application problem last with chlorothalonil and tebuconazole causing some burn when mixed with Kudos/Apogee + AMS + COC. I would not mix Kudos/Apogee with herbicides, fertilizers or biological stimulants. We do not know what will happen when these products are mixed with the growth regulator. At the cost of the growth regulator, I would not want to minimize the growth control and/or yield response to save a trip across the field.



### **Two Words: White Mold**

### **Kemerait**

In my 22 years as an Extension specialist at the University of Georgia, I cannot remember a season more favorable for white mold on peanuts than this one. (White mold, also known as “stem rot” and “southern blight”, is caused by the fungal pathogen *Sclerotium rolfsii*.) From pictures sent to me by county agents and consultants, it is clear that white mold is quickly developing not only on peanuts but, in some cases, on soybeans as well in Georgia. Conditions are perfect for the development of white mold and growers MUST be prepared to protect their crop in order to protect yield and profitability. Current Conditions are perfect now for development of white mold in the peanut crop for several important reasons. 1. Hot daytime temperatures favor development of white mold. 2. Dry conditions can make white mold more difficult to control because of lack of rainfall to wash the fungicide from the leaves to the crown of the plant. Also, white mold tends to go “underground” during hot and dry conditions where is even more difficult to control. 3. High humidity favors development and spread of white mold. 4. Intermittent rain showers tends to increase severity of white mold because a) these showers increase humidity and b) typically do not “beat” the white mold fungus down as often occurs in more prolonged downpours. 5. Perhaps MOST importantly, white mold THRIVES during warm nights (above 75°F) with near 100% humidity. Such conditions are perfect for development and spread of white mold. 6. Growth and development of the peanut crop supports and thick canopy of foliage. Individual “hits” of white mold begin with one plant that is infected, but with the thick canopy of leaves, the white mold fungus can move efficiently from one plant to the next. To minimize losses to white mold, it is critical to protect the plants from this spread with the effective use of fungicides. Conditions in the 2021 season were less favorable for white mold than they are now. Why is that? 1. Daytime and nighttime temperatures were generally cooler in 2021 than in 2022 and were less favorable for development and spread of white mold. 2. Abundant rainfall in 2021 not only cooled temperatures but also mechanically beat back the fungal pathogen, *Sclerotium rolfsii*, which helped to slow the spread of the disease. What growers should be doing now. 1. Scout fields for detection of white mold. Growers or scouts should check crown of wilted plants for presence of active white mold. 2. Stay on a timely fungicide program. The choice of “best” product to use is a combination of level of risk to white mold in a field and cost of material. 3. Time fungicide applications to capture irrigation or rainfall within 8 to 24 hours following application. 4. Recognize that no fungicide program will eliminate individual “hits” of white mold but an effective fungicide program must stop white mold from spreading. An effective white mold program includes a) choice and rate of product, b) timing of application, and c) timing of irrigation or rainfall following the fungicide application. 5. Best white mold products include Elatus, Excalia, Umbra, and Convoy then Fontelis and Provost Silver and then followed by Lucento, Priaxor, azoxystrobin and tebuconazole.

### **New FDA Ruling for Livestock Producers Effective June 11, 2023 – Having a Veterinary Client Patient Relationship**

On June 11, 2023, medically important antimicrobial injectables (this actually applies to all antibiotics including mastitis tubes as well as OTC injectables) will no longer be available over the counter. They will only be available as a prescription through a veterinarian. A VCPR (veterinary client patient relationship) is going to be the standard operating procedure going forward. We have already been doing something similar over the last few years with feed through antimicrobials.

Basically, producers have a year to prepare, but we know that waiting to next June is not going to work out well. If a producer needs to give antibiotics after June 11, 2023, they will need to have a VCPR with their local vet in advance to make the prescription process much better. A vet may not need to see every animal to write a prescription, but the VCPR would be a necessity if producers want to

keep antibiotics on hand to treat their livestock or horses. This includes needing prescriptions for drugs like penicillin or LA-200 that producers have previously been able to purchase over the counter. Now, it will be similar to Draxxin and others like it, for example. The earlier producers get a VCPR with a veterinarian the better. In case you are interested, here is a link to access FDA's formal documents. <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/cvm-gfi-263-recommendations-sponsors-medically-important-antimicrobial-drugs-approved-use-animals>

### **Crunch Time for Scab Wells**

For many growers, this post is stating the obvious, but it's just a reminder to not to be caught off guard following our dry weather through June. We are currently in a highly critical period for scab protection. The nuts are sizing very rapidly at the moment and within just a few days of spraying there will be a lot of unprotected tissue exposed. We are having the worst weather possible for this right now with many locations receiving rainfall late each evening, which keeps the nuts wet all night.

**This is THE most critical time to protect the nuts from scab.** Hopefully, you were able to save money early by skipping some sprays when the weather was dry and pressure was low. That time is past. Rotating Miravis Top with Elast/Tin will offer the best scab protection available through the nut sizing period. **With the rain we are seeing, you should tighten to 7-10 day spray intervals on susceptible varieties.** A surfactant applied with Miravis Top (Group 3 + Group 7 fungicides) or with materials like the Group 3 + Group 11 mixtures can help under these conditions. No surfactant is necessary with Elast because it has surfactant activity itself.



### **2022 Georgia Peanut Tour set for Tifton area Crosby**

The thirty-fourth annual Georgia Peanut Tour will be held September 13-15, 2022, in Tifton, Georgia, and the surrounding area. The tour brings the latest information on peanuts while giving a first-hand view of industry infrastructure from production and handling to processing and utilization. Tour stops will be made in several peanut producing counties surrounding Tifton.

Attendees can expect to see first-hand nearly every aspect of peanut production in the state. This year's tour hosts many exciting stops including on-farm harvest demonstrations and clinics, as well as, research at the University of Georgia Tifton Campus. The Georgia Peanut Commission, University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and the USDA-ARS National Peanut Laboratory coordinate the tour. For sponsorship information, contact Hannah Jones at [hannah@gapeanuts.com](mailto:hannah@gapeanuts.com) or call at 229-386-3470.



### **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*

*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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