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ACREAGE REPORT AND CROP CONDITION

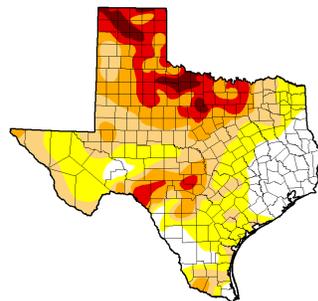
Things have been quite in peanuts early this growing season. Planting intentions were unclear throughout much of the winter and early spring due to dry conditions, suppressed prices and producers began to comprehend the new farm bill.

Conditions are still relatively dry throughout peanut producing areas in Texas; however, the intensity of the drought has improved throughout much of the state according to the U.S. Drought Monitor (<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?TX>).

Estimated planted peanut acres in the U.S. comparing 2014 to 2013 (USDA-NASS Report, 6/30/14).

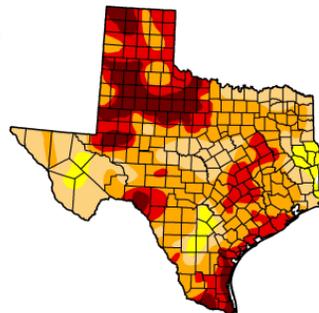
State	Planted acres (x1,000)	
	2013	2014
Alabama	140.0	175.0
Florida	140.0	140.0
Georgia	430.0	590.0
Mississippi	34.0	40.0
New Mexico	7.0	5.0
North Carolina	82.0	90.0
Oklahoma	17.0	17.0
South Carolina	81.0	115.0
Texas	120.0	125.0
Virginia	16.0	18.0
Total	1,067.0	1,315.0

“Conditions are still relatively dry throughout peanut producing areas in Texas; however, the intensity of the drought has improved throughout much of the state”



Hopefully, additional relief will come for the High Plains as increased rain

chances are forecasted for the next several days.



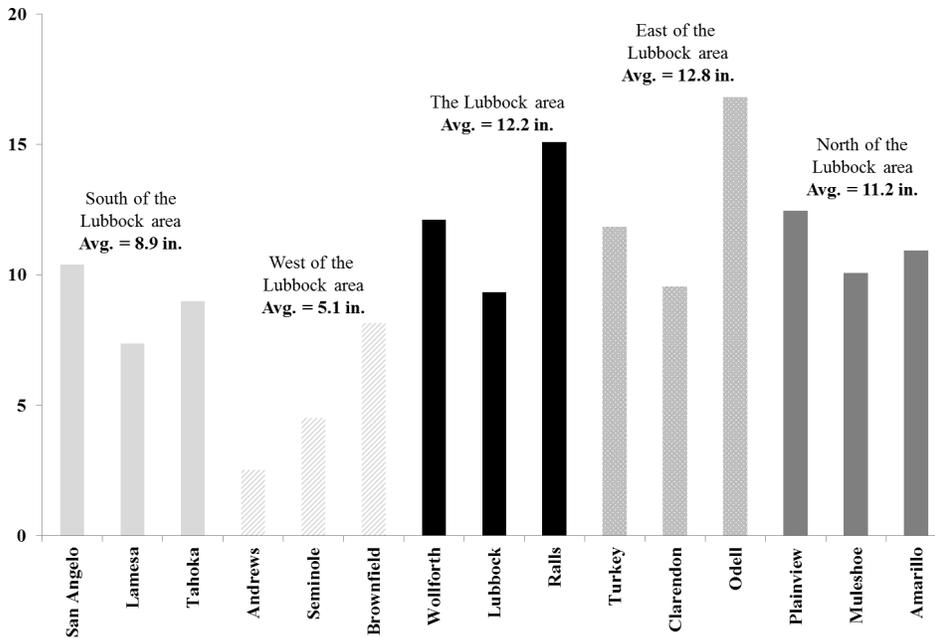
Current drought monitor map as of 7/24/14 (top) compared to conditions in July 2013.

Peanuts are estimated to be planted on 125K acres in Texas up 4.2% compared to 2013. Overall, peanut acreage is expected to have increased by 23% with Georgia driving that trend planting an estimated 160K more acres.

Runners are the predominant market-type grown in Georgia, whereas, all four market-types are grown in Texas. We continue to see changes in the composition of market-types in the state with increases in Virginia-types being grown. Research is currently being conducted to compare the performance of varieties from different market-types to commercial standards.

ACREAGE REPORT AND CROP CONDITION

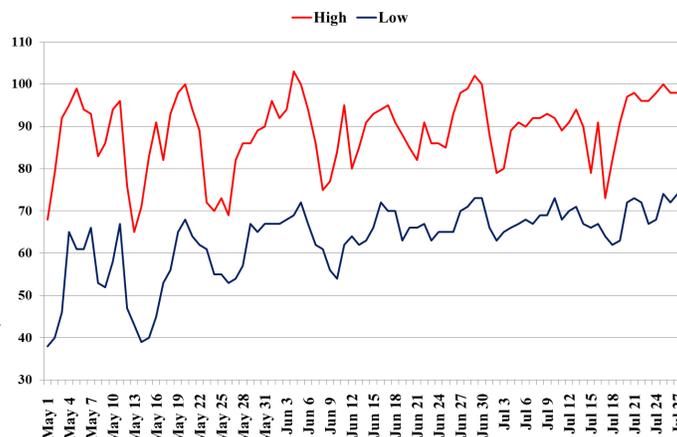
Much of the improvement in the drought status resulted from rainfall that has been received during the growing season. Year-to-date totals from selected West Texas Mesonet Sites range from 2.5 to 16.2 inches for Andrews Co. and Odell in Wilbarger



Rainfall amounts (year-to-date) for 15 West Texas Mesonet Stations located throughout the state. Different colored bars represent regions related to the Lubbock area. (<http://www.mesonet.ttu.edu/mesonet-precipitation.htm>).

received to date. While some hail accompanied these systems, the peanut crop fared much better than the cotton crop, where some fields were replanted while others were lost.

In addition, peanuts have responded well to the mild temperatures that have been experienced this season. While warm temperatures have been experienced intermediately, temperatures in mid-July were unseasonably cool. Accompanied by overcast conditions and high relative humidity, flowering, pegging and early pod set are excellent. These conditions have also helped reduce the evapotranspiration rate allowing for the peanut canopy to fully develop. As a result, many of the row middles for runner and virginia-type peanuts have lapped. Planting patterns of more upright growing types, such as Spanish, are more obvious, especially in fields with wider row spacings. JW



High and low temperatures recorded for the Lubbock Texas Mesonet Station. (<http://www.mesonet.ttu.edu/mesonet-precipitation.htm>)

“Widespread rainfall was received the latter part of May and early June.”

Co. respectively. These extremes illustrate the overall trend where rainfall intensified as storm systems moved easterly. Rainfall received in May, June and July has accounted for almost 90% of the precipitation

“Moderate temperatures accompanied by overcast conditions and high relative humidity have resulted in excellent flowering, pegging and early pod set.”

PEANUT DISEASE UPDATE

NEW PRODUCT UPDATE:

July 2014 marked the lapse of the technical patent for azoxystrobin, commonly known as Abound (Syngenta Crop Protection). Effective 7/25/14 the Texas Department of Agriculture issued a registration for Azaka fungicide for use in peanuts. Azaka is manufactured by Cheminova (Research Triangle Park, NC). The label for the fungicides lists use rates and a spectrum of activity similar to that of Abound. Fungicide resistance management plans are similar to those of other Group 11 or strobilurin (QoI) products. Azaka has been sold outside of the US for use in other crops since 2011.

In addition, the fungicide Custodia, manufactured by Mana Chemical in Raleigh, NC, received registration earlier this year and is currently being evaluated in peanuts. Custodia is a pre-mix of azoxystrobin and the Group 3, triazole fungicide tebuconazole (which is the same active ingredient found in Bayer CropSciences' Folicur). Other formulations of azoxystrobin are being developed and should be available in 2015. Information regarding specifications of these or any other pesticide labels can be obtained by the manufactures or by searching www.cdms.net.

JW

While the environmental conditions described in the previous section are generally good for peanut growth and development; however, these



Initial (upper left) and advanced (upper right) lesions of early leaf spot, and severe spotting in the lower canopy (bottom).

same conditions favor the development of many of the peanut diseases we see in the Southwest. There have been reports of early leaf spot since the middle of June; however, this disease has been easily maintained with fungicide applications targeting pod rot, or applications made directly for leaf spot.

In addition to leaf spot, reports of Sclerotinia blight have been coming in from both the High Plains and the Rolling Plains. While most fields with a history of the disease have either been rotated, planted to a resistant variety, or previously treated, it is important to remain diligent and continue to scout and manage in order to minimize potential losses.

Another disease to be mindful of at this time is the pod rot complex, caused by *Pythium* spp. and/or *Rhizoctonia solani*. Many fields with a history of this disease have received preventative applications that were made anywhere between 60 and 75 days after planting. Subtle differences, such as the appearance of the infected pods (greasy or dry rotted) can be used to differentiate the two pathogens. This is important when it comes to selecting the proper fungicides to apply. Several factors including pathogen pressure or field history, fungicide selection, as well as application timing and application method may effect disease control.



Symptoms of Pythium pod rot on a Valencia-type peanut (left) and Rhizoctonia pod rot on a Runner-type (right).

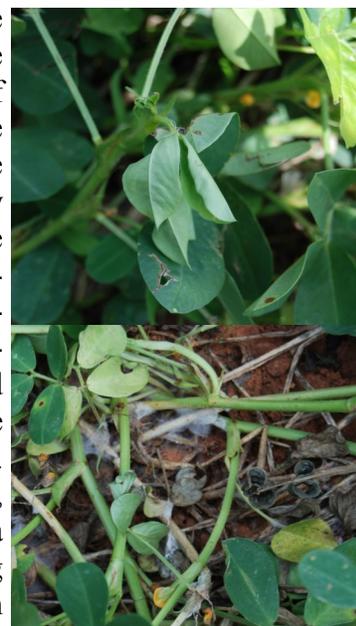
Other diseases that have been observed in within the last 2 weeks are Southern blight, caused by *Sclerotium rolfsii*, limb rot, caused by *R. solani*, and root-knot nematode (*Meloidogyne arenaria*).

The two former diseases are fungal diseases which often cause inconspicuous symptoms but are easily managed with fungicide applications made to control *Rhizoctonia* pod rot.



Symptoms of Southern blight (left), Limb rot (center) and root-knot nematodes (right).

Root-knot nematodes are less widely distributed than the other diseases mentioned. Above ground symptoms consist of poor growth and severe stunting, but infections may go unnoticed. Roots of infected plants exhibit abnormal growth or galls. If you have any questions regarding peanut pod rot call me at 806-632-0762; or jewoodward@ag.tamu.edu. JW



Initial symptoms of Sclerotinia blight (top) and signs of the pathogen (bottom).

MID- TO LATE-SEASON WEED CONTROL OPTIONS

There have been some challenges related to weed control do to the increased pressure being experienced this season. Herbicides applied preplant and at planting have likely done what they can and new weed flushes are starting to emerge. Herbicides applied early-postemergence that do not have soil activity may give way to new weed flushes as well. In other words, good early season weed control may need some attention because previously applied herbicides have dissipated over time. So what options do we have at this time of year?

There has been some good discussion about herbicides applied to peanuts in bloom to early peg and the potential for increased injury. We have looked at this timing issue with several herbicides, including Cadre, Pursuit, Ultra Blazer, 2,4-DB, and Cobra and have not seen a problem when these herbicides are applied at that time during the growing season. Each herbicide has a preharvest interval (PHI) restriction, which is generally between 30 and 90 days before harvest.

Cobra may be used at 12.5 ounces per acre, and up to two applications may be made per season. Cobra has a 45 day PHI, which means that applications must not be made within this time period. Ultra Blazer may be used at 1 to 1.5 pints per acre and up to 2 pints may be used per season. Ultra Blazer has a 75 day PHI. Basagran may be used at 1 to 2 pints per acre through pegging and up to 4 pints per acre per season. No PHI is listed on the Basagran label; however, peanut hay and forage may be fed to livestock, but treated fields can not be grazed for at least 50 days after treatment. Storm may be applied at 1.5 pints per acre and up to 3 pints per acre per season. Storm has a 75 day PHI. None of these herbicides are active through the soil (i.e. generally considered contact herbicides), so new weed flushes after application may occur.

Basagran has activity on cocklebur, wild sunflowers, and yellow nutsedge. Ultra Blazer and Cobra are effective at controlling Palmer amaranth, annual morningglory, smellmelon and other small sized annual broadleaf weeds. None of these herbicides provide residual weed control. Storm, a prepackaged mixture of Basagran and Blazer, may be use to control a wide range of small and actively growing annual broadleaf weeds. All of these herbicides need a spray additive to improve herbicidal activity with a crop oil concentrate (COC) being the most widely recommended.

If Pursuit or Cadre were used at their full rates (1.44 ounces of the DG formulation or 4 ounces of the liquid), a sequential application should not be applied. If a reduced rate (0.72 ounces of the DG formulation or 2 ounces of the liquid) was used at the first application, then a sequential reduced rate application may be applied. It is not recommended to use the full rate of Pursuit followed by the full rate of Cadre or the full rate of Cadre followed by the full rate of Pursuit because of rotation crop concerns, weed resistance management, and overall crop response.

Cadre is probably one of the most active herbicide used postemergence (POST) in peanut. Cadre has good activity on many broadleaf and grassy weeds, and nutsedge. There is an 18-month rotational restriction following application before cotton may be planted, which limits the use of this herbicide in west Texas. Pursuit has good activity on a broad spectrum of weeds, but has the same rotational restriction as Cadre. The use of nitrogen fertilizer is recommended with Pursuit applications. Development of weeds resistant to Cadre and Pursuit has become a bigger concern over the past few years. Weeds not control by these herbicides does not mean you have resistant weeds, but susceptible weeds that appear more and more tolerant to these herbicides may be a sign that



**Peter Dotray,
Weed Scientist**

and

**James Grichar,
Research Scientist**



“Herbicides applied preplant and at planting have done what they can and new weed flushes have emerged.”

MID- TO LATE-SEASON WEED CONTROL OPTIONS (cont.)

2,4-DB 200 (Butyrac 200) may be used in peanut at a rate of 0.8 to 1.6 pints per acre, whereas 2,4-DB 175 (Butyrac 175) may be used at 0.9 to 1.8 pints per acre. These rates are equivalent to 0.2 to 0.4 pounds of active 2,4-DB per acre. Applications should be made between 2 to 12 weeks after planting. Do not apply to peanuts suffering from lack of moisture. The second application should not be made later than the late bloom stage of peanut and do not apply within 30 days of harvest.

2,4-DB has good activity on several annual broadleaf weeds including morningglory and sunflower. 2,4-DB plus a COC will cause typical phenoxy-type injury and the peanut plants to 'lay down' for 24 to 48 hours, but the plants recover quickly and research suggests this injury will not result in yield losses at the end of the season. 2,4-DB may be tank mixed with other herbicides to broaden the spectrum of weeds controlled. The dominant issue with using 2,4-DB in west Texas is cotton injury. Adjacent cotton fields are exceedingly susceptible to 2,4-DB drift. Tank contamination should also be an important concern when the same equipment is used in both peanut and cotton production.

In general, a six-hour rain free period is sufficient for most herbicides, although some formulations have decreased this time to approximately one hour. Many POST herbicides require a spray additive to ensure maximum herbicide performance. In west Texas, a COC is recommended over non-ionic surfactants (NIS) for many herbicides, while in south Texas, a NIS has caused less plant phytotoxicity than a COC with herbicides such as Blazer and Cobra. For other herbicides such as Pursuit and Cadre the choice is not as critical; however, the addition of liquid nitrogen fertilizers or dry spray grade ammonium sulfate may improve herbicide performance. Mixing order and compatibility are an issue for many herbicides; therefore, always carefully read and follow label instructions for maximum herbicide performance. Thorough coverage can be accomplished by applying herbicides to smaller weeds, increasing the carrier volume and/or spray pressure, proper boom height, and accurately applying the herbicide to weeds growing beneath the crop canopy (through various nozzle arrangements and spray equipment).

Dual Magnum and Outlook are preemergence herbicides that may also be used POST in peanut to decrease the potential of crop injury following application. These herbicides have good activity on annual grasses and small-seeded broadleaf weeds (namely Palmer amaranth), but must be applied prior to weed emergence or emerged weeds must be controlled by tank-mixed with another POST herbicide. Activity on yellow nutsedge has been observed when these herbicides are applied POST to peanut, but activation shortly after herbicide application by rainfall or irrigation is necessary for effective control. Also, yellow nutsedge must be no more than 8 to 10 inches tall for this treatment to be effective. Poast Plus (40 day PHI), Select Max (40 day PHI), and Fusilade DX (30 day PHI) are labeled for use in peanuts for POST control of annual and perennial grasses and usually provide effective control when applied to annual grasses and perennial grasses that are not stressed. Generally, Select Max and Fusilade control bermudagrass more effectively than Poast Plus but repeat applications may still be necessary for effective control. For more information on weed control options contact Peter Dotray (806-746-6101) or James Grichar (WGrichar@ag.tamu.edu). **PD and JG**



“Mixing order and compatibility are an issue for many herbicides; therefore, always carefully read and follow label instructions for maximum herbicide performance.”





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This newsletter is for you the producers and other members of the peanut industry. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for the newsletter please contact Jason Woodward

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