Late Season Irrigation Management

**Todd Baughman**

*State Peanut Specialist*

Many producers may be in the process of shutting the irrigation off on cotton. Peanut is a different crop all together especially with Runner and Virginia Market-types. Research in both Texas and Georgia has indicated that stressing Runner peanuts now will be detrimental to yields. Irrigation or rainfall is still need to develop maturing pods. Therefore we need to examine the maturity of Spanish and Valencia to determine if pods are fully developed and close to harvest than we can reduce or stop irrigation. We will most likely need to maintain irrigation through September with Runner and Virginia Market-type. Depending on current moisture situation, crop maturity, and September weather we may be able to reduce our current irrigation levels. However, we will want to maintain close observation of the crop and not allow it to stress right now.

Always feel free to call me at 940.552.9941 or tbaughma@ag.tamu.edu

Late Season Management of Leaf Spot

**Jason Woodward**

*Extension Peanut Pathologist*

I had the opportunity to attend the Collingsworth County field tour last week (Tuesday Sept. 1). Again Dale Dunlap (Texas AgriLife County Extension Ag Agent) had another great turnout for the event. Overall, things look pretty good in the area region. I think the peanut crop has greatly benefited from the rainfall experienced in late July and throughout August. There were no obvious disease problems in the peanut fields we saw on the tour; however, I was asked several questions regarding late season leaf spot control options. Many growers off the Caprock made mid-season applications of fungicides for Rhizoctonia pod rot. That in conjunction with warm windy conditions arrested the development of leaf spot. The recent rainfall experienced has resulted in a few reports of early and/or late leaf spot. Other foliar diseases to be aware of include pepper spot and web blotch. There are numerous fungicides labeled for leaf spot control which. Several things should be considered when using fungicides late in the season. Most impor-
tantly is the spectrum of diseases you are trying to control. Not all of the products with activity against leaf spot have activity against soilborne diseases. For example, chlorothalonil-based products such as formulations of Bravo, Equus, and Echo are labeled for use on leaf spot, but are not recommended for use against southern blight or Rhizoctonia limb rot. If soilborne diseases are active late in the season, broad spectrum fungicides such as azoxystrobin (Abound), tebuconazole (Folicur), etc. may be warranted. It is also important to consider pre-harvest intervals when choosing fungicides. Most fungicides recommended for leaf spot have a pre-harvest interval (PHI) of 14 days; however, restrictions for some products may be longer. Please refer to product labels for this information. The groups of fungicide(s) used within the season must also be taken into consideration, especially when using products with a single site mode of action such as the Group 11 (strobilurin) and Group 3 (triazole) fungicides. Extension and label recommendations have been developed to minimize the development of resistance to the fungicides in leaf spot populations. In addition to time to harvest, close attention needs to be paid to weather patterns and forecasts. It is not uncommon for leaf spot to develop rapidly late in the season, especially as we receive more rainfall and air temperatures decrease. Late planted peanuts should continue to be scouted during harvest as the level of leaf spot inoculum (i.e. spores) will increase with the combining of infected plants in adjacent fields. If you have any questions related to peanut diseases or fungicides feel free to give me a call at 806-632-0762 or send me an e-mail at jewoodward@ag.tamu.edu.