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SPECIAL
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Peanut Progress

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Crop Situation Update

*Todd Baughman -
Extension Peanut
Agronomist*

There have been recent reports of spider mites showing up in peanut in West Texas. While spider mites are not a new pest to peanut, when and where they show up may be. Normally spider mites are triggered by insecticide spraying or hot, dry weather. I would especially keep an eye on peanut where I have had to spray for other insects, adjacent to cotton fields that have been sprayed for insects or fields that

irrigation capacity or water stress has been an issue. Hopefully, the recent rain and cooler temperatures



Spider Mites

w i l l help. However, we w i l l need to continue to scout for these insects to make sure they do not build up to damaging levels. If significant populations resulting in defoliation occurs than control is likely warranted. Danitol, Comite, or Omite can all provide control of spider mites. It is

critical that a high gallonage spray volume be used for adequate coverage (Comite and Omite recommend a minimum of 20 gallons per acre). If thorough coverage is not achieved than control failures may result. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns give Todd a shout @ 940.552.9941 ext. 233. Thanks to Clyde Crumley (Extension Agent - IPM, Gaines County) for this update and much of the information presented in this portion of Peanut Progress.

South Texas Disease Update

*A.J. Jaks - Research
Associate*

Numerous and bountiful prior and post planting rainfall on the south Texas peanut

growing region has had both positive and negative effects. The positive have been excellent pre-planting soil moisture and reserve and few if any post planting irriga-

tions. The negatives have been delayed planting, washing of fields and meteorological conditions conducive to foliar disease formation.

South Texas Disease Update - Cont.



Leaf Spot

Chances are that leaf spot was present in fields before growers started spraying fungicides. With this factor in mind many growers will be playing “catch-up” in trying to control foliar disease. Growers will need to use a fungicide that has curative and protective properties. This type of fungicide will be taken into the

plant and have activity against foliar diseases such as leaf spot and rust and soil borne diseases such as southern blight and *Rhizoctonia* pod/limb rot. In addition growers should consider tightening spray schedules to ten to fourteen days between fungicide applications. This is especially true if

weather conditions persist such as dews and periodic rain showers leading to prolonged leaf wetness which promotes disease epidemics. Some defoliation has already occurred due to leaf spot and the goal should be to protect the new leaves which are still forming.

Peanut Disease Update

*Jason Woodward -
Extension Plant
Pathologist*

Disease pressure has been high this season, due mainly to increased precipitation, cooler temperatures, and higher than average relative humidity. The warmer/drier conditions we have been experiencing over the past few weeks in conjunction with preventative fungicide applications have slowed the progression of *Sclerotinia* blight. However, everyone needs to remain mindful of the poten-

tial for late-season disease development. In addition to *Sclerotinia* blight, foliar diseases such as early and late leaf spot, pepper spot, and web blotch can be found at low to moderate levels in some fields. Fungicide applications are required to minimize the damaging effects of these pathogens. Several things must be considered when using these products 1) What disease(s) is the fungicide active against, 2) What is the products Pre-harvest interval (PHI), 3) How much of the product has

already been used this season, 4) What is the recommended use pattern of the fungicide, and 5) product cost and availability. Information to answer questions 1, 2, 3, and 4 can be found directly on the label. Target diseases and/or pathogens the fungicide is active against are listed by crop. Fungicide selection also depends on the time until harvest. The PHI or minimum time from application to harvest differs for each product. Pre-harvest intervals typically range from 14 to 30 days before

Peanut Disease Update - Continued



Caption describing picture or graphic.

threshing. Prior use of a fungicide within the season will also play a role in product selection and use. Label recommendations also include the maximum number of applications and maximum amount of product used per season. In addition, fungicides with a single site mode of action (i.e. Abound, Folicur, Headline, etc.) generally outline a recommended use pattern. This is done to safeguard against the development of fungicide resistance.

Product cost and availability will also play a role in fungicide selection. This information can easily be obtained from local or regional distributors. Fungicides labeled for control of Sclerotinia blight include Endura (BASF Cooperation; 10.0 fl oz/Acre) and Omega (Syngenta Crop Protection; 1.0-1.5 pint/Acre). Numerous products are registered for control of foliar diseases; however, many of these products have a single site mode of action. Additional information regarding peanut fungicides can be found in the Texas Peanut Production Guide ([http://](http://peanut.tamu.edu/pdfs/productionguide07.pdf)

peanut.tamu.edu/pdfs/productionguide07.pdf). The use of genetic resistance (resistant cultivars) can also minimize disease associated losses. There are numerous cultivars for each of the market-types currently being grown across the region, each with its own disease resistance package. Properly diagnosing specific disease problems within a field will allow you to make management options this season as well as subsequent seasons. If you have questions regarding peanut diseases, fungicide selection, or resistant cultivars please contact Jason Woodward @ 806.746.6101.

“Product cost and availability will also play a role in fungicide selection.”

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