

# PeanutFax: Southeast

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Here is this week's issue of *PeanutFax*, sponsored by Nichino America, maker of *Artisan*<sup>™</sup> peanut fungicide and *ET*<sup>™</sup> cotton herbicide and defoliant.

## OVERVIEW

Parts of our coverage area remain wet. Most locations have at least some soil moisture. But we're also hearing that some pivots may crank up next week for the first time this season if it doesn't rain soon.

South Alabama is dealing with excessive moisture left by Tropical Storm Bill. This affects cotton more than peanuts, but some acreage in both crops will likely be abandoned.

Because of a national peanut research conference, our Extension contacts were tied up in meetings most of the week. The following reports were made Thursday and Friday.

## CROP REPORTS

Mark Mitchell, Mitchell Ag

**Consulting, Inc., Bainbridge, Ga.:**  
"Peanut fields are still plenty wet. I can't remember the last time I saw an irrigation system running in peanuts, and the only time they've run in cotton lately has been where they were injecting nitrogen. We've got excellent yield potential right now.

"Our oldest peanuts are 95-97 days old. Those are Georgia Greens. They aren't showing signs of tomato spotted wilt virus (TSWV). Today (Thursday) I did find a field of 78-day-old peanuts with TSWV, and 10-15% of the plants are affected. It's the worst I've found this season.

"I'm picking up a little white mold and some early leafspot. Our youngest peanuts are getting their 2nd fungicide application, and most of the rest are on their 3rd and 4th treatments.

"We're applying some 2,4DB for sicklepod and beginning to apply some Classic for beggarweed. We've got fields that have more weeds than we'd like to see. In one case, the grower avoided Cadre because he also grows a lot of sweet corn, and

some weeds came through there. Overall, though, weed control has been pretty good, considering all the rain.

"Foliage feeders are fairly low. We've got fields where we used Lorsban early and have tobacco budworms, cutworms and beet armyworms running right at threshold. But we've got plenty of foliage and can give up some. We're seeing almost no lesser cornstalk borers. Southern corn rootworms are present, but we haven't found treatable levels. However, some Lorsban is being applied in the area.

"Leafhoppers are present, and we're finding quite a bit of leaf burn in places, primarily on field edges. At least one field may have to be sprayed in 5-7 days."

**Rusty Harris, Worth County Extension Agent, Sylvester, Ga.:**  
"Peanuts are coming along real well. Due to all the rain, we're having to fly on most of our fungicides right now. It's pretty wet, and that's been the case the last 3-4 weeks. In low spots

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## Proven At Universities, Proven In Peanut Fields

Are higher peanut yields important to you this year? Before you rely on the "standard" treatments, consider *Artisan*<sup>™</sup> and its track record in university trials.

In Virginia and the Carolinas, *Artisan* surpassed standard treatments in both yield and disease prevention in 2002, the first year it was tested in those states.

In Alabama and Georgia, *Artisan* was number one in disease prevention and yield when compared to the standards **for the past two years.**

And in the field, farmers have discovered that *Artisan* provides solid, weather resistant control of leafspot, white mold and *Rhizoctonia* limb rot.

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and lower fields there's been no way to use a tractor. We've still got afternoon showers blowing into the county, and some fungicide treatments had to be made again because it rained too soon after application.

"A few fields are showing signs of what Bob Kemerait (Extension plant pathologist) calls 'funky leafspot'. This is something that may be related to the same thing that causes pepper spot and leaf scorch. In this case, foliage on the inner canopy turns yellow and drops.

"Some farmers saw this after they mixed Select or 2,4DB with fungicides. They kind of freaked out, thinking they'd done something wrong. But the young, tender leaves weren't affected, and they would have been the most vulnerable if it had been a herbicide problem. The feeling is that plants will grow out of this.

"We've got ideal conditions for white mold. Leafspot hasn't been much of a factor yet."

**Edward Kane, Ind. Crop Consultant, Robertsdale, Ala.:** "We've had 4 days without rain and we're just getting back in the field. Work shut down solidly, even on sandy soils. The internal drainage got overloaded. With all the rain, we've got peanuts in some low-lying areas that now have very doubtful potential.

"Everybody is trying to catch up on fungicides. We're tightening up on treatment intervals where we had to go with an airplane and can now come back by ground and get a little more material on the crop.

"We're about to get our weediest fields under control, but it's been a fight. We missed a lot of burndown sprays. With all the rain and delays on treatment, we've had to make some recommendations and then

change them by the time we could treat. A lot of Select and Poast have gone out to clean up all the grass that broke through.

"We're seeing an occasional bit of leafspot, but nothing that's gotten bad. There are no insects to speak of in peanuts."

**Carl Hobbs, Carl Hobbs Ag Consulting, Ashburn, Ga.:** "We got scattered showers in a couple of locations yesterday and a good rain in some other areas Monday. But we're reaching the point in several places that we'll crank up pivots on peanuts if it doesn't rain before then. That will be our 1st irrigation this season.

"Amazingly, we've been able to pretty much apply fungicides when needed. Leafspot seems to be in check. It's a little early for soil diseases to show up, but we're getting ready for them. We haven't been forced to fly on much peanut fungicide, but that may be due to how the schedule worked out. We've flown on more stuff than I can ever recall, but it was more on cotton than peanuts.

"One grower has a 400 cc four-wheeler, and he rigged up a pull-behind sprayer with an electric pump. He couldn't have covered 2,000 acres with it, but he used the rig on wet fields here and there when he didn't have another option."

**Marla Faver, Baldwin County Extension Agent, Bay Minnette, Ala.:** "About 80% of our peanuts look really good or are rebounding from saturated soils and will look pretty good in a few days. A few fields have had water standing on them, and we've lost some acreage there. Some young peanuts that didn't stand in water too long have survived but are stunted.

"Overall, though, the crop looks

good. Vines are coming on, and the crop is blooming. But we won't know what to think about yield potential for a couple of weeks until we see how some of these fields are pegging."

## Moth Trap Catches

From Ron Weeks  
Extension Entomologist  
Wiregrass REC, Headland, Ala.

<b>Insect</b>	<b>6/27-7/2*</b>	<b>7/3-10*</b>
<b>LCSB</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5.4</b>
<b>FA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>BA</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<b>CE</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>TBW</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>28.6</b>

From Michael Donahoe  
Santa Rosa County Extension  
Milton, Fla.

<b>Insect</b>	<b>6/27-7/1*</b>	<b>7/2-9</b>
<b>LCSB</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<b>FA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>BA</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>CE</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>15.1</b>
<b>TBW</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>7.4</b>

\* Average number per night. LCSB, lesser cornstalk borer; FA, fall armyworm; BA, beet armyworm; CE, corn earworm; TBW, tobacco budworm.

**Also from Mike Donahoe:** "There has been some worm spraying in cotton, but egg counts are generally low this week. Most of our cotton and peanuts are looking really good. However, I am seeing a lot of stunting and other stress symptoms of nematodes in cotton throughout the county."

## INFO SHEET

At the request of our sponsor, Nichino America, we are attaching an information sheet this week on Artisan peanut fungicide.