

# PeanutFax: Southeast

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**JULY 16, 2004**

Here is this week's *PeanutFax*, sponsored by the Southeast field staff of Nichino America, maker of **Artisan**<sup>®</sup> peanut fungicide and **ET**<sup>®</sup> herbicide/defoliant.

## OVERVIEW

A number of our regular Extension contacts are out of the region attending a national peanut research conference. So this week's report is somewhat shorter than usual. We will be back with full coverage next week.

Overall, the crop continues to look promising in most areas. Hot, hot weather has developed over much of the region. The wet weather pattern in June has been replaced by a more typical summer trend, with widely scattered "popup" showers. Pivots are running pretty widely.

Soil-borne disease treatments are underway. No persistent insect pressure was noted.

These reports were made Wednesday and Thursday.

## CROP REPORTS

**Rusty Harris, Worth County Extension Agent, Sylvester, Ga.:** "Peanuts look good. We've got the typical weed control issues that arise after a lot of rain. White mold pressure has been low, and we're not finding too much leafspot. People are getting their soil-borne disease programs in gear, and some boron is going out with it. A little Classic and 2,4DB are going out, along with Select in places to control Texas panicum. So far, everything this year has been working like it should."

**Kris Balkcom, Agri Pro-**

**gram Assistant, Wiregrass Research and Extension Center, Headland, Ala.:**

"We've definitely got plenty of heat and are seeing a little wilt in places. Temperatures are running into the upper 90s. It would be great to get a front move through and drop these temperatures a little.

"Scattered showers developed Tuesday. I haven't seen any irrigation on peanuts yet, although I'm sure it's about to start. We're just beginning to water on the station today (Wednesday).

"Most everybody has made one soil-borne treatment, and some people are making that chlorothalonil application now. The question in 2 weeks will be whether a second soil-borne treatment will be made. If the rain slacks off some people will be less likely to spray.

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*PeanutFax: Southeast* is published by Looking South Communications, 142 Westlake Drive, Brandon, Miss. 39047. Phone: 601-992-9488, Fax: 601-992-3503. E-mail: owen@agfax.com. Editor: Owen Taylor. It is transmitted via fax or e-mail each week during the peanut production season. PeanutFax is free to growers, consultants, Extension workers, dealers and other qualifying industry professionals. ©MMIV Looking South Communications

Conditions are getting favorable for soil-borne disease. It's extremely hot and humid, with a good deal of cover on the ground. I don't know of any insect treatments in peanuts right now, but I've been told that worms were being treated in some cotton."

**Rocky Sumblin, UAP, Kinston, Ala.:** "Peanuts look great. With all the rain, we got behind with fungicide applications but have caught up now. There are fields around with some leafspot due to delays, but materials are going out now and growers are regaining control. We were probably a week behind making our first white mold applications. Usually those start around the Fourth of July."

**John Beasley, Georgia Extension Agronomist, Tifton, Ga.:** "Growers are irrigating this week about as much as they can. After all the rain in June, showers have been very isolated.

"We're at the point that the crop is really moving along and into peak water demand. Plus, temperatures have been

creeping up, and that's zapping all the moisture out of the fruiting zone. We're at least in good shape to irrigate now. The water supply is more than adequate. Creeks and rivers are full.

"One concern right now is with some of the later planted fields. The earlier plantings had a period of dry weather that prompted them to develop a deeper root system. But these later fields got started in a wetter environment, and those root systems will tend to be shallower. We're at that point in the season that if we go 3 days without rain that top 3" of soil will dry out, even where peanuts have lapped."

**Carl Hobbs, Carl Hobbs Ag Consulting, Ashburn, Ga.:** "Weather has taken a turn, back to good old Georgia hot and dry. In some fields we're irrigating but still bogging through wet bottoms. More tomato spotted wilt virus is showing up, I'm sure due to the heat. But, considering the dry spring, there's not as much as I had expected.

"Disease pressure is low.

Most growers have been on top of fungicides and are going to the soil-borne disease preventive products about now. Our oldest peanuts are bumping 80 days after planting and are strong.

"Insect pressure is light, although I have been surprised at how many three-cornered alfalfa hoppers are showing up in a place or two."