

# PeanutFax: Southeast

Owen Taylor, Editor (owen@agfax.com, 888-327-6329)

## AUGUST 26, 2005

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 small amount of digging started this week in south Georgia, and a few fields in south Mississippi were ready. How much digging takes place next week will partly depend on how Hurricane Katrina moves. Earlier in the week the projected landfall was on the eastern side of Florida's panhandle, somewhat below the Alabama-Georgia state line. But the projected path has since shifted to Mississippi's coastal counties.

Insects were being treated this week in a number of areas, but we're not hearing about overwhelming numbers.

## CROP REPORTS

**Mark Mitchell, Mitchell Ag Consulting, Inc., Bainbridge, Ga.:**

"We started plowing up our first peanuts yesterday (Wednesday). They were 126 days old. When we profiled them at 125 days they were still 3 days out, but the grower decided to get them today. We'll plow up some more next week but will look at a lot more the following week.

"We've got foliage feeders, predominately soybean loopers, and we're spraying some fields. Leaf spot is heavy in fields where farmers fell behind on spraying. White mold has been a big problem. Even where we had a good program with Folicur we're still getting white mold behind some of those applications. TSWV continues to increase. We're still spraying a few fields for three cornered alfalfa hoppers and making Classic applications for beggarweed."

**Mike Howell, Extension Area Agronomist, Collins, Miss.:** "Most of our peanuts are still in really good shape. SE Mississippi received good afternoon showers in the last couple of days, and amounts were about what we needed.

"There's a little white mold around Lucedale. It's not at a real high level but certainly enough to get our attention. We're also finding what appears to be CBR. We sent off samples and also compared it to a number of photos. Alan Henn (Extension plant pathologist) came down to look at it, and he also believes it's CBR.

"We will start pod blasting on Monday, and I'm hearing reports that a couple of fields were ready to be dug, although I'm not sure if they've started yet. Some of our first fields should be dug in the next 2-3 days. We'll have pod blasting clinics next week in the Delta. We'll be in Yazoo City on Monday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the John Deere dealership. That afternoon from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. we'll do another one at the buying point north of Anguilla on U.S. 61."

**Dallas Hartzog, Alabama Extension Agronomist, Headland, Ala.:**

"We're cautiously optimistic. Rainfall and temperatures have been good, so far, across our 2 peanut belts. We're

Continued on next page...



## Maximize your yields and protect your investment with a pint and a pint!

- The recent wet weather is providing ideal conditions for white mold and leafspot.
- Don't let disease ruin a good crop.
- Finish the season with **one pint Artisan + one pint chlorothalonil!**

[www.nichino.net](http://www.nichino.net)

*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

still 2 weeks from any serious harvesting. I expect it to start in earnest in the September 12-15 period. We've got peanuts planted as late as July 6, so harvest this year probably will go right up to Thanksgiving.

"There are no serious insect problems. Everyone is watching the TV closely to see what happens with this latest hurricane. But growers here will tell you that fighting the rain is much preferred to fighting drought. Diseases are pretty well under control where people stayed on schedule with fungicides. We're very encouraged."

**Edward Kane, Ind. Crop Consultant, Robertsdale, Ala.:** "We're staying on our fungicide schedule. We're getting into some foliage feeders, and there's a variety of them. Generally by this time we would have treated a lot of velvet bean caterpillars, but right now our main worms are southern armyworms and corn earworms, and we're treating a few fields. There are a few cutworms in the mix, too.

"We had a pretty big rash of white mold, then it settled down. A lot of our earliest plantings have already had their last white mold treatment, and we're finishing it up on some other fields. At the earliest, we're 2 weeks away from digging. We'll start checking a few fields in the first week of September. TSWV is in a few fields here and there, but this county has pretty much escaped it."

**John Beasley, Georgia Extension Agronomist, Tifton, Ga.:** "There was some concern over the last weekend and early this week about higher temperatures. The scattered showers we were having also

decreased quite a bit, and some fields showed stress. But we've had some more of those showers now and are generally in good shape.

"I was in Seminole, Miller and Early Counties this week rating fields for TSWV. Some fields were hit hard by the virus but most were in good shape. We're finding a few loopers and velvet bean caterpillars. Three cornered alfalfa hoppers also are out there, and we need to see how all these populations shape up.

"The big question going into the weekend is where Hurricane Katrina will come ashore and how much damage we can expect. Except in isolated cases, very few peanuts are ready. There's concern about rainfall in areas where fields already are wet. It still looks like the second full week of September before much harvest activity starts. A handful of fields may be dug next week."

**Joel Faircloth, Virginia Extension Agronomist:** "With all the heat, peanuts have made up a lot of lost ground. We've got weed escapes in both peanuts and cotton, but it's too late to do anything about them in peanuts. It probably will be late September before we see a bunch of digging. The crop looks very good, and disease pressure is low, overall."

**Jay Chapin, Extension Specialist-Peanuts, Blackville, S.C.:** "We have a good peanut crop, and it's pretty well made. A few scattered fields may be dug in 2 weeks, but it will be 3 weeks before significant digging starts. The main thing between now and then is to protect plants from leaf spot, particularly in some of the later-planted fields where we'll still have

to maintain a good fungicide program for a little longer. And, of course, we'll need a good harvest season. Leaf spot control, in general, has been pretty good. We've seen some late leaf spot where applications were washed off by rain and growers didn't retreat."

**David Jordan, North Carolina Extension Peanut Specialist:** "The peanut crop in North Carolina continues to look good in most places, although there still are a few dry areas. Southern stem rot has been persistent in some areas, and growers continue to battle this disease. From this point forward we will continue to see more and more disease develop, and growers will begin the shift from southern stem rot-based fungicide programs to web blotch and sclerotinia blight programs. As of earlier this week, the crop is about 5 days behind the 2004 crop when comparing heat unit accumulations for the 2 years."