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# SoyFax: Midsouth

**June 5, 2002**

Here is this week's issue of *SoyFax: Midsouth*, sponsored by Valent U.S.A., maker of Select, Resource and Cobra.

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## Overview

Warmer, drier weather has boosted the crop's growing ability. It's also allowing growers to finish planting in the upper Midsouth where conditions stalled progress during May. Some fields do remain stunted and stressed.

In central and south Louisiana some areas have still missed rains.

There are no overwhelming pest concerns in soybeans this week, although high stinkbug numbers in corn have been noted.

These reports were made Monday-Wednesday, June 3-5.

## Crop Reports:

**Allen Hogan, Interim Louisiana Soybean Specialist and Jeff Davis Parish Extension Agent,**

**Jennings, La.:** "We've had scattered rains across the state. Some people received what we'd call sufficient rains. Others got amounts that will help, but they certainly need more. Most of the crop looks good for young soybeans, but this moisture situation would be more critical if plants were bigger and in the reproductive phase."

**Gus Lorenz, Arkansas Extension IPM Specialist:** "On some early MG IIIs we're picking up stinkbugs. There's nothing at treatment level yet. These plants are just beginning to bloom. We're seeing about half of what we consider a threshold situation. All the indicators tell us they're going to be bad this year. We're mostly seeing greens but we know browns are out there because there was a big upswing of them in wheat about six weeks ago. When we find them this early in beans we know they'll be waiting for the pods."

**Wayne Dulaney, Dulaney Seed Co., Clarksdale, Miss.:** "Replanting is underway pretty widely. A seed grower said this week he was

replanting some acreage for the third time. The overwhelming amount of rain in the last month hit some people hard.

"A lot of big stuff is coming up in early soybeans, and high rates of Roundup are going out, and it seems to be taking care of it. Smartweed appears to be the hardest thing to control. People went with high rates of Roundup at burndown instead of Aim because it required more water. I'm seeing some smartweed that I think will die, but it's taking its time. We also have beans that haven't recovered from the cold, wet weather stress or thrips."

**Hugh Whitby, Rice Consultant, Agrilience, Blackfish, Ark.:** "Soybeans are doing pretty good. They did surprisingly well, in fact, through that cold weather. A few fields are being replanted because of the rain, but nothing like what we might have expected."

**Ron Cox, Tri-County Farmers Association, Brinkley, Ark.:** "Our soybeans are 75% planted, and maybe a little more than that. But

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we got a lot of rain last week, and replanting started today (Tuesday). We're still planting mid to late MG Vs. Most farmers planted MG IVs until mid May."

**Larry Crigler, Agrilience, Marks, Miss.:** "We're at least 50% planted, and a lot of beans are up and have been sprayed. With the MG IVs, we had to replant a fair amount. Some have been replanted twice, and a small amount is on its third round. When you get 3" behind the planter it's hard to gain a stand, especially with the cool weather. We had those kinds of weather patterns one after another. The rest of our planting, though, should go pretty smoothly now that the weather has warmed up."

**John Hedden, Consultant, Lawhon Farm Service, McCrory, Ark.:** "We're doing better with soybean planting now. About 60% of the crop has been planted, and growers are going hot and heavy now trying to finish up."

"Two of my growers dropped Roundup Ready varieties this season and went back to conventional beans. One wanted to use Select to clean up red rice. The other felt like he was still getting better yields with conventional varieties. We have a few more growers this year trying early planted MG IIIs and IVs. Those who planted them last year were real satisfied with yields. One grower said he increased average yields 8-10 bushels on gumbo soils that are hard to irrigate without scalding the beans."

"I think the early rain hurt our wheat. I'm seeing a lot of heads sticking straight up. In March when a lot of heading and pollinating started we got big rains that probably affected the wheat adversely."

**Dwayne Beaty, Area Extension Agronomist and Research Verification Coordinator, Monticello, Ark.:** "We've got decent weather,

and beans are responding. Some early fields in SW Arkansas are still struggling. They're blooming and short. They're dealing with the effects of too much rain and too little heat. Soybeans planted in the last two weeks, though, look good."

"We're in good shape on insects. We considered treating a verification field in Pope County for garden webworms, bean leaf beetles and grasshoppers, but foliage is outgrowing the damage now."

"We also have another verification coordinator, Trey Reaper, who is based right now in Lonoke."

**Alan Blaine, Mississippi Extension Soybean Specialist:** "We need to be setting up to water in the south Delta in some of these early planted fields below U.S. 82. While most of the state has received an abundance of rain and some areas got way too much, many of these locations in the south Delta haven't gotten significant rain since early April. Fields are moving into a high demand period for moisture and we've got to stay on top of it."

## Other Updates

**AgPestLine, a report from Jack Baldwin, Louisiana Extension Entomologist:** "Stink bugs are a threat to tasseling corn in all areas of the state. There have been a few brown stink bugs developing in corn since early season. Many fields had a few scattered plants that exhibited damage in the whorl stage to very early feeding. Southern green stink bugs and additional brown stink bugs have recently been migrating in mass to some corn fields. The critical growth stage for maximum protection to ear damage is pre-tassel to early tasseling when the ear shoot starts to develop and protrude from the stalk."

"Because of the interrupted

(soybean) planting season, there will be a substantial acreage of late-maturing soybeans, which could experience heavy infestations of defoliating caterpillars. Stink bugs will be a threat during the fruiting stages of all maturity groups."

**Ag Report from Roger Carter, Tim White, Walter Myers and Nate Wellborn, Agricultural Management Services, Inc., Clayton, La. (Catahoula, Concordia and southern Tensas and northern**

**Avoyelles Parishes):** "Moisture meeting rains covered 50% of our area, but the other area received only a sprinkle. The Palmer (index) still does not consider us to be in a 'drought,' but says we are 'seasonally dry.' Crop insurance adjustments are based on the Palmer index. Again, it has been seven weeks since a moisture meeting rain in many areas, especially west and south of Jonesville and northwest of Ferriday..."

Irrigated corn is progressing well, while the majority of dryland corn is 'digressing.' Some dryland corn has actually received adequate rainfall and looks great, but the acreage is limited. One large corn farmer has been given approval (by crop insurance adjustors) to plow most of it under..."

"Several thousand acres of corn have been treated for stinkbugs. One particular field was treated for rice stinkbugs. Southwestern corn borers and sugarcane borers will be emerging this week."

"Soybeans which have been up and which have received some moisture-meeting rainfall look great except for stinkbug populations. Sufficient numbers are present in some fields to cause the 'green bean' effect. No soybeans have been treated for stinkbugs yet. Approximately 50% of the soybeans have been planted."