



Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities



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News Letter July 2009

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Small Grain Production Meeting

Place: ALFA Building in Robertsedale

Date: Monday, July 20, 2009

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Speakers:

Dr. Erick Larson, Mississippi State Grain Specialist. The 10 commandments of wheat production.

Mr. Hassey Brooks, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner of Agriculture with a short discussion on wheat basis. There will be a meal sponsored by William Reed with BASF, Frank Moore with Syngenta, Trey Cash with Terral Seed and Abbie Taylor with Birtolla Farm Supply.

PEANUT IPM SCOUT SCHOOL ON JULY 21, 2009 (Tuesday)

Event: A Peanut Integrated Pest Management Scout School is going to be held on July 21, 2009 at the Gulf Coast Research Extension Center. The event will start at 6:00 pm and last about an hour. This is a free event for all peanut producers, field scouts, Extension personnel, pesticide dealers and crop consultants.

Directions: We will gather at the peanut entomology IPM research plots located along State Hwy 104 (head east and go past the research station on Hwy 104; research plots will be on the right or south side of the highway).

Auburn University presenters: Austin Hagan, Ron Weeks, Kris Balkcom, Ayanava Majumdar, Richard Petcher.

Who to contact? Please contact Ayanava "Dr. A" Majumdar (251-331-8416, email: azm0024@auburn.edu) for more information about this event. Hope to see you on July 21st.

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System offers educational programs, materials, and equal opportunity employment to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability

Baldwin County Stored Grain Pest Management Workshop

Date: Thursday July 23, 2009

Location: Meet at the Elberta Farmers Co-op, 13320 Main St, Elberta, AL 36530 (Tel: 251-986-8103).

The workshop will be in several parts. Those who wish to obtain in-depth knowledge of stored grain insects and control methods, or who need Pesticide Applicator Recertification Points, or Certified Crop Adviser Points, should arrive at 2 PM and stay until 7 PM. There will be a hands-on session at Mr. Bitto's grain bin facility. Those wishing to attend this session should arrive at the Elberta Farmers Co-op at 4:15 PM. We will be back at the Co-op at 5:30 PM, for a program that covers the basics of how to store grain while maximizing the quality of the stored grain and minimizing the use of fumigation. Following supper, courtesy of the Elberta Farmers Co-op, the South Baldwin Young Farmer's Club will have their meeting.

- 2:00 Welcome
- 2:10 Biology of stored grain insects, and how to identify them: Dr. Charles "Russ" Patrick, Professor Emeritus, University of Tennessee
- 3:00 Choosing the right insecticide, Dr. Kathy Flanders, Extension Entomologist, Auburn University
- 3:45 If all else fails: Fumigation and Fumigation Management Plans, Kathy Flanders
- 4:15 Break
- 4:30 Tour of Stored Grain Facility and demonstration of closed-loop fumigation system. This will be at David Bitto's Farm.
- 5:00 Scouting for insects and at-harvest tactics to maximize grain quality - Mr. Warren Griffith, Regional Extension Agent, Alabama Cooperative Extension System
- 5:30 Welcome, Comments from Terry Carlisle, Manager, Elberta Farmers Co-op
- 5:45 Using the SLAM technique to maximize grain quality, Kathy Flanders and Russ Patrick
- 6:15 How to minimize aflatoxin levels in corn – Dr. Brenda Ortiz, Extension Agronomist and Precision Ag Specialist, Alabama Cooperative Extension System.
- 6:40 Alternative Storage Methods – Results of Grain Bag Storage Demonstrations – Russ Patrick
- 7:00 Dinner

After dinner there will be a business meeting for the South Baldwin Young Farmer's Club

Sponsored by the Elberta Farmers Co-op, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and the Alabama Wheat and Feed Grain Check-off Committee. Dinner will be provided.

Huxford Row Crop Field Day:

Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2009

Time: 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Sausage and biscuits will be available.

Place: Huxford Baptist Church. From I-65 at Atmore take Highway 21 North for about 8 miles. Just past the pole mill take highway 30 going west toward McCulough. Continue for ½ mile. The Huxford Baptist Church is on the left. .

Topics: The primary purpose of this field day is to help growers with insect, disease and weed management decisions on **cotton, peanuts, soybeans and upcoming small grains.**

Speakers: Dr. Ron Smith, Dr. Austin Hagan, Dr. Ed Sikora, Dr. Barry Breke and Dr. Steve Brown with Phytogen.

This meeting is conducted by both the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and the University of Florida Extension System.

Asian Rust on Soybeans: Dr. Ed Sikora, AU Plant Pathologist

The mild winter allowed soybean rust to successfully overwinter at relatively low levels in Mobile County, and in a few counties in Louisiana, South Georgia, and in Florida. This, along with the relatively cool, wet spring has allowed the disease to be more active than in recent years. In Alabama, the disease was found on June 2 in a soybean sentinel plot near Fruitdale in Washington County. The disease has since then been detected on kudzu in Mobile, Baldwin, Conecuh, Covington and Geneva Counties. There are also new reports of the disease in soybean sentinel plots in Louisiana, and on Kudzu in Georgia, Florida and Texas.

This is the earliest soybean rust has ever been found on soybeans in Alabama or Louisiana. The earliest we have seen rust on soybean in Alabama was during the last week of June in 3 of the past 4 years, and not until late July in 2008. This indicates that rust has the potential to be a more significant problem this year depending on how weather conditions develop over the next few months.

The disease has not yet been detected in the soybean sentinel plot in Fairhope.

Growers in Washington, Mobile, Baldwin, Escambia, Conecuh and Monroe counties with soybeans at the R3 to R4 growth stage or later should consider the use of a fungicide at this time if a fungicide has not been applied previously. Since it is likely these fields have been exposed to SBR, a tank mix combination of a strobilurin and a triazole fungicide, or a prepackaged tank-mix of the two products, would be most beneficial.

Fungicides used before bloom are not considered economical. Though symptoms of soybean rust can occur on soybeans before bloom, this has not yet been observed in Alabama. Soybeans that have reached the full pod-R6 growth stage should not be sprayed as there appears to be little benefit from a fungicide application after this growth period has been reached. There have been several changes this past year to the fungicides that will be and are now labeled for management of soybean rust. In this multi-state effort, Daren Mueller of Iowa State University has taken the lead to keep

track of the constant changes. These are now posted on the soybean rust fungicide manual website: <http://oardc.osu.edu/soyrustrust/> in Appendix B.

The temperatures have been hovering around 100 degrees with a few scattered thunderstorms. Not perfect weather for rust development at this time. However, control measures should be considered.

Soybean Rust Hot Line: 800-446-0388.

For more information on soybean rust, view the USDA rust information web site at: sbr.ipmPIPE.org. When viewing the national map, click on Alabama to read my weekly commentary and recommend management practices for the state.

APPLIED SCIENCE REPORT 2009

On Farm variety testing and research can be very helpful and make good field demonstrations for agronomic practices in our area. Research is conducted at the university and research stations. These however, are done on grower's fields and typically on a larger scale. Often they are as much a part of a verification program for our area as they are research. Results were recorded and published in Regional News Letter and Auburn University web site. I would like to thank each grower and sponsor for their hard work in conducting these tests that are so helpful to our area row crop producers.

Oat Variety Test 2009

Cooperator: Walt, David, Will and Rod Richardson in Washington County, Alabama

Regional Extension Agronomist: Richard L. Petcher

Date Planted: December 8, 1009

Date Harvested: June 8, 2009

Plot sizes were 20 x 400 feet and were replicated 4 times.

Yield is corrected to 13.5 % moisture

Oat Variety	Yield in Bushels per Acre
Horizon 201	123.37
Horizon 270	113.8
Horizon 474	101.2
Trophy	96.14

Gratitude is expressed to the sponsors: Alabama Wheat and Feed Grain Commission, Plantation Seed and Terral Seed Companies.

Wheat Fungicide Test 2009
Cooperator: Ronald and Nathan Schneider, Escambia County, Alabama
Regional Extension Agronomist: Richard L. Petcher
BASF: William Reed and Sandy Newel
Syngenta: Frank Moore

Wheat Variety: Pioneer 26R61
Date Planted: November 22, 2008
Date fungicide applied: April 17, 2009
Date harvested: June 9, 2009
Treatments: BASF, TwinLine at 9 oz. per acre
Syngenta, Quilt at 14 oz. per acre
Plot sizes were 60 x 500 feet and were replicated 5 times.

Treatments	Test Weight	Yield in Bushels per acre	
Check No Fungicide	57	60.83 bushels per acre	
Quilt	58	63.15	2.32 bushel increase
Twin Line	58	64.23	3.40 bushel increase

The wheat variety Pioneer 26R61 has one of the best disease packages of the wheat varieties that we plant in Southwest Alabama. Therefore, growers would expect to receive greater benefits in their wheat's response when applying fungicides to varieties with less disease tolerance. Other fungicide trials conducted in Alabama by Leonard Kuykendall, Regional Extension Agent for Central Alabama showed wheat responded to fungicide with a yield increase from 5 to 18 bushels per acre.

Cotton Insect Hotline (1-800-851-2847) for updates on current insect conditions. The Cotton Pest Management Newsletter and additional cotton production information is also posted on the UGA Cotton Homepage at: <http://www.ugacotton.com>

Dr. Ayanava Majumdar is our new Peanut and Vegetable Entomologist stationed at the Gulf Coast Research and Extension Center in Fairhope. By the use of pheromone traps he has collected data across the state of Alabama on insects that specifically affect peanuts and vegetables. These insects of course affect our other row crops as well. You may be interested in checking his web site for trap reports from time to time.

<http://www.aces.edu/timelyinfo/#Entomology>.

Again, I hope this information has been helpful to you.

Sincerely,
Richard L. Petcher

