

Louisiana



SOYBEAN & FEED GRAIN REVIEW



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SOYBEAN UPDATE

LOUISIANA SOYBEAN SITUATION

Dr. David Lanclos, LSU AgCenter Specialist

The current Louisiana soybean situation can be rated as good to excellent right now. The crop overall is in good shape with the exception of a few areas that have been too wet or too dry. As of June 12, 2007 we are continuing to plant our double-cropped wheat beans statewide. Some producers tried to plant in the wheat stubble and did not get an adequate stand and have decided to forego the crop. Others have been very successful in obtaining

adequate stands and are off to a very good start. Most of the differences in stand establishment can be attributed to environmental conditions right after planting. Our oldest beans are now approaching R3 and we are beginning to apply fungicides statewide. Acreage is still difficult to determine due to the wheat-double crop fields which are still being planted.

Because we are in mid-June and still planting beans, there are a couple of things that I want to reiterate that we need to think about when we are planting in what is considered a “non-optimal” window. Soybean is a short-day plant, meaning lengths of developmental periods are shortened as day length declines. Based on past research, it was demonstrated that soybeans planted outside the May 1 to June 15 window did not have enough days to R5 to achieve enough dry matter to attain optimal yield. Historically, planting beans post June 15th, a producer can expect to lose about ½ a bushel a day. So what maturity group do you plant if you are still planting? My recommendation would be to switch to a MG 5. We recommended MG 4’s behind the wheat beans until about June 10th. After June 10th, producers should switch to an early to mid-MG 5. In addition to switching to a MG 5, narrowing row spacing and planting at least 130,000 seed to acre will improve your odds. To obtain maximum yield potential, these beans will most likely need to be sprayed at least three times for insects.

Regarding fungicides and the status of Asian Soybean Rust in the state: Currently, we have two parishes (St. Mary and Iberia) that have kudzu that has been confirmed positive for ASR. We do not have any soybean sentinel plots or production fields that have ASR. Because of these facts, there is much confusion and a number of opinions on what are the best tactics in managing the disease in 2007. No one opinion is 100% correct. We are really back to a field by field, or region by region type recommendation.

There are a few different choices in how to approach your fungicide(s) applications for this year. Let’s go over a few of them.

With the two locations on kudzu in south Louisiana, the primary questions have been what is the trigger mechanism that signals a spraying? Last year, our trigger was to find it in a sentinel plot and or a production field. This year because of the earliness in the detection and the two locations, should we wait to find it in a sentinel plot or production field? That is up for debate. This is what we do know. Positive confirmation was 53 days earlier than last year and our environmental conditions up until this past weekend have been prime for the spread of the disease. Consider the following scenarios and keep in mind these can change based on future findings of ASR and the development of the crop.

Scenario 1: If you have beans that are at R3 or fast approaching R3 what should you do today? You have two options: One, is that you can put Quadris and Headline alone or you could put Stratego, Quilt or Headline plus a triazole. The Quadris and Headline alone applications will give you protection against our traditional diseases such as pod and stem blight, aerial blight, frog eye etc. If you apply Quilt, Headline plus a triazole, or Stratego you are getting a triazole in those mixtures which will aid in controlling ASR.

Scenario 2: Your beans are around R1 maybe approaching R2 and you want to spray twice to “not worry about rust” the rest of the season. First, we cannot guarantee that this is a fail safe recommendation but economics will deem that this will more than likely be one of the more common profalitic type applications. When you approach R2, you could elect to apply a triazole product alone. What is this going to do? It is only going to aid you in controlling ASR not other diseases. But controlling ASR until R3 and past is worth about five dollars at \$7.50 beans. What do you do at R3? Your options are Stratego, Quilt or Headline plus a triazole.

Scenario 3: You only want to spray once and we still have not found ASR on soybeans in the state. What do you do? You spray at or very near R3 with Quilt, Stratego or Headline plus a triazole.

There are several other scenarios that we could discuss but the three listed above are the most common *right now*. These scenarios will not hold for the later planted beans if and when we do find rust in a soybean field. Producers and consultants need to keep in mind that for beans being planted today, there is a strong likelihood that they may need to be sprayed twice.

Other things to consider: All of these fungicides are not created equally. Efficacy of these products is going to differ as you go from region to region across the state. Let's take Cercospera leaf blight for example. What products do we have that work on Cercospera leaf blight? My response is usually little to none with the exception of Topsin-M. Topsin-M use rate is 10 to 20 ounces to the acre and that correlates to ½ lb to 1.0 lb ai. Cercospera leaf blight is the worst disease that we must deal with in Louisiana and we have very limited products that are effective against the disease.

Alexandria is truly a dividing line in the state when it comes to many different things. Soybean disease incidence is no different. Disease pressure from all diseases is so much more rampant south of Alexandria that it is very difficult to say that a product that does well in central and north Louisiana is going to do as well in southwest and southcentral Louisiana. The further north you go the less disease incidence - and you can get away with more from a fungicide perspective. This is the reason that I recommend some products and different rate structures exclusively for some regions of the state.

GROWTH STAGE RANGES FOR DELTA SOYBEANS

Average number of days between stages for MG IV, V and VI soybeans in Stoneville, MS 1979 - 2003 (Dr. Larry Heatherly - Retired ARS)

Planting Date/MG	Planting to R1	R1 to R3	R3 to R5	R5 to R6	R6 to R8
April/4	42	20	19	30	25
April/5	59	26	16	33	21
May/4	40	23	16	22	22
May/5	54	22	15	26	18
May/6	62	27	12	27	20

2007 Soybean Fungicides with Full or Section 18 as of 06/04/07

Product	Rate/Acre
Triazoles	
Alto	4 oz
Bumper	4-8 oz
Caramba*	8.2 oz
Domark	4 oz
Folicur	3.1 oz w/strobilurin
Laredo	5 oz w/ strobilurin
Orius	3.1 oz w/ strobilurin
Propimax	6 oz
Tilt	4 to 6 oz

Topguard*	7 oz
Uppercut	3.1 oz w/strobilurin
Strobilurins	
Headline	4.7 oz w/triazole or 6 oz alone
Quadris	5 oz w/triazole or 6 oz alone
Co-Packs and Pre-Mixes	
Quilt	14 oz
Stratego	7 oz
Other	
Topsin-M	10-20 oz
*Product is currently not registered in Louisiana soybeans, but should receive Section 18 soon.	



WHAT'S GOIN' ON...

CORN IRRIGATION

Dr. David Lanclos, LSU AgCenter Specialist

Over the last week there have been questions about “when should I stop irrigating my corn?” This is a very popular question at this time of year. In the past, when corn would reach the dent stage, most irrigation was terminated. Newer research has determined that adequate soil moisture should be maintained until black layer is reached. If irrigation is terminated during or at the dent stage, potential kernel weight is only about 75% complete and yield losses can occur.



Photo 1 (Photo credit to MSU)



Photo 2 (Photo credit to MSU)

When black layer is reached the plant has reached physiological maturity and seed weight has been maximized. Black layer can be determined by shelling an ear of corn beginning at the tip of the ear and observing a black abscission on the tip of the kernel (photo 1). The dark abscission is due to hard starches accumulating, which stops water from entering the kernel. At this point moisture is around 30% and will drop 1-1.5% in hot dry conditions.

To determine the number of days to black layer follow the milk line in the kernel (photo 2). When the milk line is halfway down the kernels physiological maturity will be reached in 10 days and when three-fourths of the way down it will be 5 days. Physiological maturity is on

average 20 days after dent and 60 days after silking. Potentially when irrigation is terminated at the dent stage, yields can be reduced by as much as 15 to 20%.



Louisiana Soybean Association (LSA)

LSA is a producer-based soybean organization affiliated with the American Soybean Association (ASA) and the United Soybean Board (USB). This organization has many roles, including updating statewide soybean producers on current legislative and environmental issues. The LSA has representatives on the ASA and USB boards. This allows Louisiana issues to be brought to a national audience. As a member of LSA, you support local, state, national and international promotion and use of soybeans. Membership is available to anyone involved in production agriculture. Agribusiness personnel are strongly encouraged to join.

When you join the LSA, you become a member of ASA, which is the collective voice of 25,000 U.S. soybean producers and other agribusiness personnel that are members of the association. By making the choice to become a member of ASA you make that collective voice even more powerful.

ASA is your advocate in Washington D.C., on issues like biodiesel legislation, the Farm Bill, transportation infrastructure and market access. This important policy work is paid for by your voluntary membership in ASA, and cannot come from checkoff dollars. As your number one advocate, ASA testifies before Congress, lobbies Congress and the Administration, provides written comments on key issues, helps develop key legislative language on soybean initiatives and relays information about the importance of ASA issues to the media.

ASA's commitment to policy development begins with the grower-members. They elect state Board members and voting delegates who establish the policy goals for ASA. For more than 85 years, ASA has been working on behalf of its members to build demand, enhance profit opportunities and protect the soybean industry. ASA is proud to represent its soybean grower members, and is looking forward to another 85 years of success.

To increase its representation on the national level, the LSA is seeking new members to be a part of their organization. By purchasing a three year membership to the LSA for \$155.00 the new or renewing member will receive credit for four bags of seed at their respective seed dealership. After paying for a three year membership and purchasing your seed as you normally do, send in a copy of the receipt and where you purchased your seed back to LSA by June 30th, 2007. Your account at that seed dealership that you choose will then be credited for four bags by the respective seed representative.

The seed companies participating in the LSA membership drive are: Asgrow/DeKalb, Croplan Genetics, Delta Grow, Delta King, Delta & Pine Land, NK/Syngenta Seed, Pioneer and Terral. If you have any questions on joining LSA call Charles Cannatella 337-207-4730 or go online at www.SoyGrowers.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

June

6/14 Evangeline Parish Field Day – Duralde, LA for details contact Keith Fontenot kfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu

6/28 Rice Station Field Day – Crowley, LA for details contact Don Growth dgrowth@agcenter.lsu.edu

August

8/23 Dean Lee Field Day – Alexandria, LA for details contact Matt Martin mmartin@agcenter.lsu.edu



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