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## Cotton, Corn, Soybeans, Sorghum, and Wheat

Volume 7, Issue 2 February 2017

### Using Resistance to Help Management Plant-parasitic Nematodes in Soybean.

Charles Overstreet, Extension Nematologist

Plant-parasitic nematodes are major problems for many producers in Louisiana every year. Conditions during 2016 were apparently very favorable for damage by nematodes and a number of producers were seriously impacted. The Southern root-knot nematode was particularly evident in a number of fields throughout the state. Nematode injury to soybeans can show up anytime during the growing season with stunting, stand-loss, yellowing of leaves, wilting, or even early death. It is very common to see what appears to be normal-sized plants simply die prematurely from severe injury from root-knot nematode during some drought stress.

Three nematode types are of concern to soybean producers in Louisiana. These include the Southern root-knot, reniform, and soybean cyst nematode. The Southern root-knot nematode has been around for a long time in our state but generally occurs only in lighter-textured soils. It is widespread and found throughout the state. Reniform nematode is a fairly new pest to our state, having being found about 75 years ago. It has quickly spread and is now the major nematode of crops such as cotton and sweetpotato. Soybean is an excellent host for this nematode as well and serious damage can occur to this crop. Reniform nematode is not very particular about the soil types that it occurs in but does seem to reach the highest levels in silt loam soils. Soybean cyst nematode is another fairly new pest to our state. However, this nematode was widespread and damaging for a number of years but has greatly declined in our state since the 1990's. We now consider this nematode to be only a very minor issue now. Across the United States, this nematode is considered the most important nematode of soybean causing an estimated two billion dollar loss each year.

The use of resistance offers producers one of the most cost-effective methods of management of these pests. There are a number of soybean varieties which have been specifically bred and selected to include resistance against one or more species of three nematodes described above. Generally, these varieties have worked well in reducing the build-up of nematodes and limiting damage to plants. Producers do need to know exactly which type of nematode that they are dealing with in their fields. Root-knot can easily be identified because of the serious galling to the root system. These galls are evident anytime that you see stunting, yellowing, or early plant death and are very diagnostic for the pest. Reniform nematode is much more difficult to recognize in the field. An irregular pattern of plant heights down the row may give you a clue that this nematode is present. This nematode does not produce any distinctive symptom so positive identification must occur through a sample submitted for nematode analysis.

The following tables list some of the varieties of soybean that have been identified as having significant levels of resistance against the Southern root-knot and reniform nematodes. I have deliberately left off naming varieties with resistance against the soybean cyst nematode. I have not seen any fields with significant damage from this nematode in a number of years. The data in the tables was generated by Nematologists in Arkansas. If you have had serious problems with either of these nematodes, these resistant varieties should be helpful. Producers who are rotating with corn or cotton should be aware both types of plants are good hosts for the Southern root-knot nematode. Corn is a good rotation crop against the reniform nematode but may require two years rather than one year to really reduce the populations of this pest.



### Contributors

Dr. Ronnie Levy  
Dr. Charles Overstreet  
Dr. Daniel Stephenson  
Dr. Josh Copes

Table 1. Varieties that were rated with resistance in 2016 against root-knot nematode.\*

Asgrow AG 53x6	Dyna-Gro S56RY84	Pioneer P53T73SR
Asgrow AG 55x7	GoSoy 49G16	Progeny P4588RY
CZ 4044LL	HBK LL4953	Progeny P5752RY
CZ 4222LL	HBK RY4721	R09-430
CZ 4540LL	LG C4900RX	REV <sup>®</sup> 45A46 <sup>™</sup>
CZ 4590RY	MorSoy 4616RXT/STS	REV <sup>®</sup> 48A26 <sup>™</sup>
CZ 4656RY	MorSoy 4915RXT	REV <sup>®</sup> 48A76 <sup>™</sup>
CZ 4748LL	NK S45-R7	S11-17025
CZ 4818LL	NK S47-C8	S11-20124
CZ 4898RY	NK S49-B1	USG 7536XT
CZ 5225LL	NK S52-Y2	USG Ellis
Dyna-Gro S45XS66	NK S56-M8	

\*Variety trials conducted in greenhouse tests by nematologists at Arkansas. All of these varieties rated as either moderately resistant or resistant and supported considerable less galling or reproduction by the nematode.

Table 2. Varieties that were rated with resistance in 2015 against root-knot nematode\*.

Armor 45R70	CZ 4540 LL	NK S52-Y2 Brand
Armor 50R21	C4959RY	NK S55Q3 Brand
Armor 57R17	HBK 4940LL	Progeny 5752RY
AR 49X	HBK 4953LL	REV <sup>®</sup> 48A46 <sup>™</sup>

Table 3. Varieties that were rated with resistance in 2016 against reniform nematode.

Armor AG 53X6	Delta Grow DG 5128	Go Soy 49G16
Delta Grow DG 4995RR	Dyna-Gro S49XS76	Go Soy 5214GTS

Table 4. Varieties that were rated with resistance in 2015 against reniform nematode.

Delta Grow DG 4995RR	Go Soy Leland	S11-20337RR
Delta Grow DG 5128	S11-20195RR	



Figure 1. Stunting from high levels of reniform nematode.



Figure 2. Severe stunting and plant death associated with Southern root-knot nematode.



Figure 3. Early death of soybean plants in field in large areas. Plants almost normal size but premature death impacts yields.



Figure 4. Heavily galled roots of soybean are a good indicator of Southern root-knot nematode.



Figure 5. Subtle damage beginning to show up on soybean from Southern root-knot nematode. Slight stunting and yellowing of foliage are just beginning to show up.



Figure 6. Some galling is evident on roots and plants are just beginning to start showing symptoms (yellowing).

## Getting ready to plant – Burndown considerations

Drs. Daniel Stephenson and Josh Copes

LSU AgCenter

I have received many calls concerning burndown over the past couple of weeks. The warm weather we have experienced recently has most farmers itching to get started. Research has shown that the optimum time to burndown winter vegetation is 4 to 6 weeks prior to planting. This is primarily to reduce the risk of insect damage to seedling crops. Think of it this way, winter vegetation in the field is like a buffet for the worms. Removing the buffet 4 to 6 weeks prior to planting will cause the worms to die or move on to another food source. If a crop is planted into green or dying vegetation, the possibility of those worms feeding on the seedling crop is very high. Also, removal of winter vegetation 4 to 6 weeks prior to planting reduces the risk of physical competition between the weed and the crop. Corn, for example, is determining its yield as it is spiking and if growth is hampered by any physical competition, i.e. weeds, then yield will be reduced. Acreage that had a burndown application greater than 6 weeks prior to planting may need to be sprayed again prior to planting, especially if a residual herbicide was not applied with the burndown. The take home message is simple, plant into a clean, weed-free seed bed.

Use of residual herbicides tank-mixed with the burndown application is pretty common. Many herbicides utilized for residual control in a burndown application need to contact bare soil to provide residual. If a field is completely covered by winter vegetation (cannot see much bare soil), that vegetation will intercept the burndown application cocktail, thus the “residual” herbicide may only act as a foliar herbicide and offer little to no residual herbicide. Metolachlor or S-metolachlor are examples of herbicides that are tightly bound by plant biomass, so don’t expect residual control if it doesn’t reach the soil surface.

Research has shown that glyphosate plus 2,4-D at 1 lb ae/A is the best broad spectrum burndown treatment. Notice I wrote 1 lb ae/A, not 0.5 or 0.75 lb ae/A. For a 4 lb ae/gal 2,4-D formulation, 1 lb ae/A of 2,4-D equals 1 quart/A. In my opinion, this holds true no matter if you add another herbicide like Sharpen, Goal, LeadOff, etc. to the burndown application. Essentially, if you are going to make the trip to apply the herbicide, why not apply enough 2,4-D that research has shown will kill almost all of the winter weeds Louisiana farmers deal with.

If a producer does not want to or can’t use 2,4-D in their burndown application, then the choice of burndown herbicide depends upon weed spectrum. I’m not going to go through every scenario because there can be many options. Give your local county agent a call for help in this situation.

# Grow For The Win!

Do you have what it takes to claim the title of  
highest soybean yield winner in Louisiana?



Enter the 2017 Louisiana Soybean Association High Soybean Yield Challenge co-sponsored by the LSA and BASF by July 1, 2017, for a chance to win the title of highest soybean yield in Louisiana and claim the grand prize — \$7,500.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Primary ACO (see rules) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Entry Deadline

July 1, 2017 - (No exceptions - entry form may be mailed, emailed or faxed to office)

Submit this form to: Louisiana Soybean Association, 8105 Tom Bowman Drive, Alexandria, LA 71302

Questions? Contact the Louisiana Soybean Association at 318-542-8857 or [levy@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:levy@agcenter.lsu.edu).

2017 Louisiana Soybean Association High Yield Soybean Challenge-sponsored by the LSA and BASF

## **Eligibility**

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1. Each contestant must be at least 18 years of age on or before August 1, 2017, and must also be actively engaged in soybean production.
2. All Contestants must complete ALL contest entry, field and/or production and harvest information forms to be eligible for any of the cash awards. Data form will be provided following submission of entry form.
3. Contestants are only eligible to receive one official contest cash prize per year.
4. Prize winners agree to allow Louisiana Soybean Association and BASF to use field data, and to appear in person in promotional and educational activities.
5. Prize will be presented at the Louisiana Soybean Association Annual meeting in January 2018.
6. Current directors of the Louisiana Soybean Promotion Board, Louisiana Soybean Association, Louisiana State University Personnel and their immediate families are not eligible. (Immediate family is defined as: spouses, parents, grandparents, siblings, children and grandchildren.)
7. Contest entries must have a 60 bushel/acre minimum to win.

## **Field Criteria**

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1. Contest field must be located within the land boundaries of the State of Louisiana.
2. Contest field must be owned or operated by the contestant and easily accessible by an Approved Contest Official (ACO). An ACO includes a Louisiana State University AgCenter Employee.
3. ACOs not eligible to serve as judge if employed as consultant by the producer/contestant.
4. Contest is limited to one producer/one field.
5. Harvest area must consist of a minimum of five (5) contiguous acres and a maximum of seven (7) contiguous acres.
6. Harvest area must have four (4) straight sides and harvest area must have four (4) right angles forming a square or rectangle.
7. Field must have been planted to soybeans in at least one of the last three production years prior to 2017, and contestant must have paid the appropriate checkoff assessments on soybeans.

## **Yield Contest Rules**

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1. Harvest soybeans must meet minimum Federal Grain Quality Standards.
2. State certified scales and moisture testers must be used for all measuring and weighing processes. Original weigh ticket (No photocopies) must be attached to the Harvest Report Form. Weigh ticket must depict percent foreign matter (FM).

3. LSU AgCenter reserves the right to have a designated representative present (with prior notice) during all measurement, harvest and weighing processes.
4. Entry forms must be postmarked by July 1, 2017. Incomplete entry or harvest report forms will be returned.
5. Contestants are officially entered only after their entry form has been received and processed by the Louisiana Soybean Association and notified in writing as officially entered in the 2017 Louisiana Soybean Association High Yield Soybean Challenge, sponsored by the LSA and BASF.
6. Contest field location should be submitted to ACO 14 days prior to harvest. ACO and contestant will establish and designate the boundaries of the contest field prior to harvest.
7. Contestant must contact primary ACO at least 48 hours prior to harvest. Primary ACO will arrange for two additional ACO's to be present during harvest.
8. All three (3) ACO, Producer and Certified Scale Official and the contestant will sign the Harvest Report and attest and certify the following: harvested area, percent moisture to nearest tenth percent (00.0%), total foreign material, yield in pounds and final yield (adjusted to 13% moisture on a per acre basis). Final report must be postmarked by December 1, 2017, and mailed to ARSA. For the purpose of this contest a 100 bushels per acre yield shall constitute 6,000 pounds per acre after adjustments are made for moisture and total foreign material.
9. No yield information is to be released to the media unless it has been verified by the LSU AgCenter.
10. Primary ACO will acquire and maintain a probed one (1) pound sample (in bag provided) until January 31, 2018.
11. All contestants are reminded to read and follow ALL directions on crop protections products. Number of applications and rates must be within the label.
12. Variety: No experimental line(s) allowed. Variety selected must be available, in the marketplace and listed in the company sales brochure for Louisiana.

**Questions? Please contact the Ronnie Levy at 318-542-8857  
or [rlevy@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:rlevy@agcenter.lsu.edu).**

# 2017 Yield Contest Worksheet

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All calculations should be rounded off at the third decimal place.

\_\_\_\_\_ ÷ 60 = \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Pounds Bushels

100 - \_\_\_\_\_ ÷ 87 = \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Moisture 0.0% Factor

## Certified Area

\_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ ÷ 43560 = \_\_\_\_\_ (C) Length in feet Width in feet

## Acres

\_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ ÷ \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ Bu/A (D) (A) (B) (C)

\_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ Bu/A (E) (D) (FM ÷ 100)

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ Bu/A (F)\*\* (D) (E)

\*\*Indicates the Final Yield from the contest area of the field adjusted to 13% moisture and for all foreign matter.

**TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, I CERTIFY THE ACCURACY OF THIS REPORT**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Grower

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Primary ACO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Certified Scale Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Judge 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Extension Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Extension Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Extension Title

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Field must be harvested before December 1, 2017, and report postmarked on or before December 1, 2017.  
Mail form to: Louisiana Soybean Association, 8105 Tom Bowman Drive, Alexandria, LA 71302

# 2017 Soybean Yield Contest – Production Information

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Producer Name\_\_\_\_\_

1. Previous Crop in Field 2016\_\_\_\_\_

2015\_\_\_\_\_

2014\_\_\_\_\_

## Please Enter 2017 Growing Season Information Below

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2. Soil Type (Series) & Texture

a. Soil Test Information (Series) & Texture\_\_\_\_\_

b. Fertilizer Applied & Application Date\_\_\_\_\_

3. Pre-Plant Tillage Practices & Observations\_\_\_\_\_

4. Planting Practices

a. Date\_\_\_\_\_

b. Type of Planter\_\_\_\_\_

c. Row Width\_\_\_\_\_

5. Variety Information

a. Variety\_\_\_\_\_

b. % Germination & A.A. Info\_\_\_\_\_

6. Seedling Rate & Seedling Depth\_\_\_\_\_

7. Seed Treatment & Inoculation\_\_\_\_\_

8. Established Plant Population\_\_\_\_\_

9. Pest Control Practices

a. Weed Management Practices\_\_\_\_\_

1. Pre-Plant\_\_\_\_\_

2. Pre-Emergence\_\_\_\_\_

3. Post-Emergence\_\_\_\_\_

4. Weed Control Observations\_\_\_\_\_

b. Insect Management Practices\_\_\_\_\_

c. Disease Management Practices\_\_\_\_\_

10. Other Foliar Application(s)\_\_\_\_\_

11. Water Management Practices\_\_\_\_\_

a. Date & Amounts of Irrigation\_\_\_\_\_

12. Harvest Aid Management Practices\_\_\_\_\_

13. Agronomic Information at Maturity\_\_\_\_\_

a. Date (R8 Growth Stage)\_\_\_\_\_

b. Plant Height (at R8)\_\_\_\_\_

c. Lodging Rate\_\_\_\_\_

d. Shatter Rating\_\_\_\_\_

14. Agronomic Information at Harvest

a. Date\_\_\_\_\_

b. Plant Height\_\_\_\_\_

c. Lodging Rates\_\_\_\_\_

d. Shatter Rates\_\_\_\_\_

e. Grain Quality Observations\_\_\_\_\_

Continue on back if additional space is needed.

## Mitigating and/or Managing Herbicide-Resistant Weeds

Drs. Daniel Stephenson and Josh Copes

LSU AgCenter

Herbicide-resistant weeds, especially glyphosate-resistance, is not a new topic. Glyphosate-resistant (GR) Palmer amaranth was documented in Louisiana in 2010. GR waterhemp was documented in 2015. As of today, glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth can be found in virtually every row crop parish in Louisiana. I'm not saying it has infested every field in every parish, but those fields having infestations range from a few plants to an extreme number of plants. GR johnsongrass and Italian ryegrass have been documented too. Although we haven't officially documented GR horseweed (mare's-tail) in Louisiana, I am certain it infests many acres in northern Louisiana. Therefore, Louisiana producers must implement strategies to mitigate and/or manage this extremely troublesome pest.

In 2015, the LSU AgCenter published an extension publication entitled "Herbicide Programs for Managing Glyphosate-Resistant Palmer Amaranth and Common Waterhemp in Louisiana Corn, Cotton, and Soybean". It can be found at <http://www.lsuagcenter.com/~media/system/c/7/5/a/c75a63bba3f758d391b8c91871076ba6/pub3522herbicideprogramsformanagingglyphosateresis.pdf>. This publication provides suggested programs that can help mitigate and/or manage glyphosate-resistant pigweeds. In addition, if these programs are implemented, they offer control of many if not all of the other grass and broadleaf weeds Louisiana crop producers deal with every year.

I'm not going to discuss the programs in this article in depth, so I ask that you view the document. If you have questions, please call. However, I will highlight the main focus of all programs. The main, primary, essential thing to remember in designing a program to manage glyphosate-resistant weeds is residual herbicides. Let's break it down.

**Step 1:** It is crucial for producers to apply a residual herbicide just prior to planting, at planting, or preemergence. Paraquat at 0.5 to 1 lb ai/A (i.e. 1 to 2 quarts/A of Gramoxome SL or 0.67 to 1.33 quarts of a generic 3 lb ai/gal paraquat) needs to be tank-mixed with this preemergence residual herbicide to kill any emerged weeds to ensure that the crop emerges in a weed-free seedbed. All the residual herbicides listed in the preemergence section of the publication will provide residual control of pigweed following proper activation. The choice of preemergence herbicide depends upon other weed species found in the field. I won't go into each different situation, so please call us to discuss if needed.

**Step 2:** The next crucial step is to apply a residual herbicide tank-mixed with a non-selective herbicide 3 to 4 weeks after planting. Examples of herbicides that offer residual control when applied POST are Dual Magnum (or many generics at proper rates), Prefix, Warrant, or Zidua. Tank-mix one of them with glyphosate in Roundup Ready crops or with Liberty in Liberty Link crops.

Implementing steps 1 and 2 overlays residual herbicides during the early growing season, which protects the crop from early season competition. The best time to kill a pigweed is when it is emerging or when it is very small (less than 3-inches). Residual herbicides will kill the pigweed as it germinates or while it is emerging. In addition, research has shown that maintaining soybean weed-free for the first five weeks after emergence maximizes yield, assuming proper growing conditions and insects/diseases are managed.

Between burndown and planting, pigweed and other weeds could emerge and reach heights too large to kill with an at-planting application of any labeled non-selective herbicide, specifically paraquat. This situation usually occurs in fields that received a burndown application greater than 4 weeks prior to planting or when a burndown application didn't include a residual herbicide. Remember, Palmer amaranth has the potential to grow one-inch in height per day. Therefore, it is critical that emerged Palmer amaranth or any other weed species be controlled when they are small with either tillage or a non-selective herbicide before planting. Tank-mixing a residual herbicide with this preplant application will help to maintain your field weed-free up to planting. However, do not think that applying a residual herbicide weeks prior to planting will be sufficient for residual control in-crop. A preemergence residual herbicide will still be needed to maintain the crop weed-free until the first postemergence application.

In many states to our north, PPO-resistant Palmer amaranth and waterhemp have been documented. To date, the LSU AgCenter has not documented any PPO-resistant pigweed in Louisiana. However, we are screening some populations, so the potential for this is there. You are probably wondering what are PPO's? PPO-inhibiting herbicides include Valor, Envive, Enlite, Valor XLT, Rowel, Rowel FX, all the Authority products, BroadAxe, Prefix, Flexstar, Flexstar GT, Reflex, Cobra, Ultra Blazer, Resource, ET, Cadet, and many more. Honestly, this worries me as a weed scientist more than glyphosate resistance! In Louisiana, the most common weed is morningglory. Producers historically rely upon one of these herbicides to control morningglory. It was always a big positive that they controlled pigweed and other weeds such as hemp sesbania, sicklepod, Texasweed, smellmelon, and others too. We all should remember the articles in popular press articles showing the devastating effects of uncontrolled Palmer amaranth on a crop. Imagine spraying a PPO-inhibiting herbicide for morningglory, hemp sesbania, AND Palmer amaranth control and you get little to no control of pigweed. In this situation, I would have no suggestion for a herbicide application to help you. In the presence of glyphosate and PPO-resistance Palmer amaranth, we will still have products that contain Dual Magnum and other metolachlor products, metribuzin and products that contain it, Zidua, Warrant, Classic, and Liberty, but use of only these products would severely limit a producers ability to effectively manage herbicide-resistant weeds and all the numerous weed species Louisiana producers struggle with. I'm not trying to be "chicken little" and claim the sky is falling. I just want the reader to understand that this isn't something to play with and a plan should be developed and implemented to prevent it.

Use of residual herbicides before crop emergence and in the first postemergence application is vital for weed management in Louisiana corn, cotton, and soybean. In cotton, a residual herbicide is most likely needed in the second postemergence application too. To mitigate and/or manage glyphosate-resistance and/or PPO-resistance, we have to use residual herbicides, rotate crops, tank-mix multiple herbicidal modes of action in a single application, don't use similar herbicidal modes of action every year, and if you see a weed that should have died after application, go pull it up and burn it. Those steps will help in the fight against herbicide resistance. If you have any questions, please call your local county agent. Good luck.

## Soybean Planting Dates – Optimal

Early planting of soybeans has increased in Louisiana over the last several years because of grower success. Despite cold soil temperatures and slow plant growth of seedlings, producers have seen a yield advantage from early planting.

There are many advantages to early planting. Germination and emergence are slower in cooler soil temperatures but soybean plants are less sensitive after first trifoliolate (V1) producing about two nodes per week. Later planted soybeans simply cannot catch up with soybean node development of earlier planted soybeans. Earlier soybean planting increases crop yield potential by allowing plants to generate more stem nodes. Plants need to produce as many stem nodes as possible, simply because stem nodes are where the plant produces flowers, then pods, and ultimately seeds within those pods.

In order for plants to acquire carbon dioxide to produce dry matter, the stomates in the leaves must open, allowing water inside the leaf to escape and carbon dioxide to be taken in for photosynthesis. Crop water use includes evaporation loss directly from the soil, and water lost as transpiration from the leaves. Crop water use efficiency can be improved by reducing evaporative water losses. Early planting helps reduce water loss because the cooler soil and air temperatures in early plantings reduce water evaporation compared to temperatures in late May and early June plantings. Canopy closure earlier in the season reduces solar radiation on the soil surface, lessening soil water evaporation. Higher humidity in a closed canopy also minimizes soil water loss.

Earlier canopy closure will cover the ground sooner in the growing season, collecting nearly all of the incoming sunlight for use in photosynthesis. For highest yields, the soybean crop should collect as much of the available solar radiation as possible, simply because plants require the energy of sunlight to convert carbon dioxide into carbohydrates, protein, and lipids (oils). Later planted soybeans will not have the opportunity to collect as many hours of sunlight compared to earlier planted crops reducing yield potential. Remember the longest day is June 21, summer solstice.

In the future, planting dates could be slightly earlier. In some years higher yields have been recorded from earlier than our optimum plantings date. Earlier planting dates will result from varieties developed to provide sufficient vegetative growth under cooler soil temperatures and adverse conditions. Planting date studies continue to answer questions concerning the optimum planting dates. It appears many of the new varieties are not as photoperiod sensitive as older varieties; therefore, early planting has contributed to increased yields. Late planting dates are usually the most damaging to yields. Yield losses are quite variable but decline rapidly as soybeans are planted beyond the optimum planting dates.

## Dates of Seeding

Because weather conditions are different from year to year, seeding dates can be affected by environmental conditions. Early or late planting can cause reduction in plant height in many varieties. Generally late plantings have less chance of success unless irrigation is available or optimal weather and timely rains occur throughout the growing season. A general rule is that 1/2 bushel per day is lost for every day that planting is delayed past the first week of June. Optimal seeding dates for each maturity group planted in Louisiana are:

- Group III – April 15 – May 10
- Group IV – April 15 – May 10
- Group V – March 25 – May 5
- Group VI – March 25 – April 30



## LSU AgCenter Launches Crop Specific Text Message Groups

In an effort to better reach crop specific clientele, the LSU AgCenter has formed several crop specific text message groups. The intent of the text message groups is to provide timely information to growers, crop consultants, land owners, extension, research, and other related industry personnel. Text messages will be sent out as reminders for meetings, updates about product registrations, notifications of new publications and newsletters, updates of disease and pest outbreaks (somewhat as an early warning system), as well as other important information as it arises during the growing season.

It was pointed out that it would be important that text messages go out from the AgCenter and that recipient would not have the capability to text back to the whole group because this could cause endless text messages going back and forth. Another key was that all personal information should be kept private. The program that we have decided to manage the text message groups with is called Remind. This program is often used by school teachers to text-message students and parents and does not allow texts to be sent back to the group. All phone numbers from the different members of the group is kept confidential and is not shared with others within the group.

A Remind computer and smart phone application is also available if you would like to download it. The app allows you to receive the texts in the app in addition to the regular text message feature. This is convenient, especially if you do not have text message capabilities. *In addition, if you opt in for the feature, you can instant message/chat with others in the group within the app. Again, all phone numbers and other information is kept confidential. Only your name is visible.*

If you would like to join the one of the commodity text groups, simply send a text message to **81010** with the name of **one** of the groups in the body of the message:

**@larice @lasoybean @lacorn @lacotton @lasorghum @lawheat @lacropcon @laspotato @lasugar**

### Repeat process to join more than one text group

To unsubscribe to any group, simply text back “unsubscribe@larice” (or other group name) to the group. If you would like to get the text messages by email, send an email to [larice@mail.remind.com](mailto:larice@mail.remind.com) (or other group name). If you would like to unsubscribe to the email messages, simply email back with “unsubscribe” in the subject line.

Commodity	Group text number	Group Text Name
Rice	81010	@larice
Corn	81010	@lacorn
Grain Sorghum	81010	@lasorghum
Soybeans	81010	@lasoybean
Wheat	81010	@lawheat
Louisiana Crop Consultants	81010	@lacropcon
Sweet Potato	81010	@laspotato
Sugarcane	81010	@lasugar

LSU AgCenter would like you to join our crop specific text groups!

Text messages will be sent out as reminders for meetings, updates about product registrations, notifications of new publications and newsletters, updates of disease and pest outbreaks (somewhat as an early warning system), as well as other important information as it arises during the growing season.

To receive messages by email, send an email to [larice@mail.remind.com](mailto:larice@mail.remind.com) (or other group name). To unsubscribe, reply with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

## Upcoming Calendar of Events



### **Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Meeting**

Thursday, February 23 — LSU AgCenter Extension Office Auditorium, 9609 Marlatt Street, Bastrop, LA 71220 The 2017 Morehouse Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Meeting will be held in the LSU AgCenter Extension Auditorium, 9609 Marlatt Street, Bastrop. Please call Richard Letlow at 318-281-5741 for more information. This will be the only meeting held in Morehouse Parish.

### **Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Meeting**

Wednesday, March 15 — Rayville Civic Center A Private Applicator Pesticide Recertification Meeting in Richland Parish. Contact Keith Collins at the Richland Parish office for more information 318-728-3216.

### **Acadiana Beef Cattle Producers Field Day**

Saturday, March 18th — Iberia Research Station, 603 LSU Bridge Road, Jeanerette, Louisiana 70544 Indoor program includes market report, update on BQA and antibiotics use, and marketing strategies for calf crop. Outdoor program will cover forage issues, impact of management on shrink, and the Master Farmer program. Lunch will be provided. Contact: Guillermo Scaglia

### **Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Meeting**

Tuesday, March 21 — Caldwell Parish Library, 211 Jackson Street, Columbia, LA 71418 The 2017 Caldwell Parish Private Pesticide Recertification Meeting will be held from 9:00 a.m. - 10:35 a.m. at the Caldwell Parish Library. Please contact Jim McCann at 318-649-2663 for more information.

### **Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification Meeting**

Tuesday, March 21 — LSU AgCenter Extension Office Auditorium, 704 Cypress Street, West Monroe, LA 71291 A Private Pesticide Recertification Meeting will be held at the LSU AgCenter Extension Office Auditorium in West Monroe. Please contact Richard Letlow at 318-281-5741 or 318-323-2251 for more information.

## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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West Feliciana	Andre' Brock	225-635-3614	abrock@agcenter.lsu.edu

## Specialists

Specialty	Responsibilities	Name	Phone	Email
Soybean	Soybean	Ron Levy	318-542-8857 (cell)	rlevy@agcenter.lsu.edu
Cotton , Corn, Sorghum	Cotton, Corn, Sorghum	Dan Fromme	318-880-8079 (cell)	dfromme@agcenter.lsu.edu
Weeds	Corn, Grain Sorghum, Cotton. Soybeans	Daniel Stephenson	318-308-7225 (cell)	dstephenson@agcenter.lsu.edu
Asst. Integrated Pest Management, Northeast	Cotton, Corn, Soybean, Grain Sorghum	Sebe Brown	318-498-1283 (cell)	sbrown@agcenter.lsu.edu
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Entomology	Soybean, Corn, Grain Sorghum, Sugarcane	Beuzelin, Julien	337-501-7087 (cell)	JBeuzelin@agcenter.lsu.edu
Nematodes	All agronomic crops	Charlie Overstreet	225-578-2186	coverstreet@agcenter.lsu.edu
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Pathology	Soybean, Corn, Grain Sorghum	Clayton Hollier	225-578-4487	chollier@agcenter.lsu.edu
Irrigation	Corn, Grain Sorghum, Cotton. Soybeans	Stacia Davis	904-891-1103	sdavis@agcenter.lsu.edu
Ag Economics and Agribusiness	Soybean, Cotton, and Feed Grain marketing	Kurt Guidry	225-578-3282	kmguidry@agcenter.lsu.edu
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Wheat	Wheat	Boyd Padgett	318-614-4354 (cell)	bpadgett@agcenter.lsu.edu

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