

**January 19, 2018**

## **DICAMBA AND SOYBEAN NEWS**

Concerning dicamba training, I know there will be several Ag industry dicamba training opportunities for area applicators this winter. I will hold some “cleanup sessions” later in March in which I am instructed to use the same videos that are available online today with our online course. For UNL dicamba in-person training sessions, I will be in Fairbury at the 4-H Building on Tuesday, March 13, 10:00-11:30 a.m.; Wilber at the Saline County Extension Office on Wednesday, March 14, 1:00-2:30 p.m.; and the Gage County Extension Office in Beatrice from 10:00-11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 15. No pre-registration is required, no charge for the training.

This week I attended the Crop Production Clinic in Lincoln held at the Embassy Suites Ballroom for the first time. In past years the location has been Beatrice and the ARDC at Mead but this one location was large enough for everyone that needed commercial or non-commercial recertification, dicamba training and the crop production updates.

One of the sessions I attended was presented by UNL Plant Pathologist Loren Giesler. We were making fun of his Twitter handle at the end of his presentation which is @MulletManLG Loren is an outstanding specialist for soybean disease and soybean cyst recommendations.

One of his topics was the sudden death syndrome (SDS) pathogen which is spread with soil; thus, the methods used to prevent soybean cyst nematode spread are also applicable to preventing the spread of SDS. For symptoms of SDS to develop in a field there needs to be moisture driving the disease during flowering. As this is a soil borne disease, it will not spread rapidly across the field from individual pockets that develop. Areas can also have an oblong shape in a field spread by tillage or equipment traffic.

The first symptoms of SDS appear as scattered yellow or white spots on leaves in the upper portion of the canopy late in the year. These spots then form brown streaking between the veins of the leaves and as the disease advances you have leaf drop, usually within 14 days in most cases.

Always take a soybean cyst nematode test in these areas as often that problem goes hand in hand. Choose varieties that have resistance to SDS. Avoid early planting as it favors SDS infection during cool soil temperatures, however, there is a fine line there because delayed planting can decrease yield potential too on irrigated soybeans.

Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) populations have been associated with SDS and may increase disease severity. Practices that decrease SCN — such as planting SCN-resistant varieties and rotating crops — may delay SDS onset and reduce disease severity.

Foliar fungicides and most seed treatments are not effective in reducing SDS. However, the fungicide fluopyram (ILeVO®, Bayer CropScience) has efficacy against SDS. As a seed treatment, fluopyram has reduced SDS severity and protected yield on susceptible varieties compared to a base seed treatment in several research trials conducted by extension plant pathologists in the North Central United States and in numerous farm trials. It is rare only one product on the market has an advantage in this arena but ILeVO does. In the first two years of University testing in Iowa it increased yields in 75% of the trials which was impressive. I posted an image of those trials on my twitter page this week at Pryor\_knowledge



The key question is when is it profitable for you in a specific field that has SDS history or what percent damage in the field does there need to be? If you have fields that are infested with Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS), the seed treatment ILeVo has shown consistently about a 4-5 bu/ac yield response in trials conducted throughout Nebraska and the Midwest and with the current price of soybean, growers need to take all things into consideration.

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