

# Burrus Buzz

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## Technology Fights Black Cutworm

Black cutworm feeding has been reported in a few fields across the Midwest. Poncho 500 and the Power Plus® Hybrids containing Herculex I technology are providing good black cutworm control. To our knowledge, no acres have been rescue-treated for black cutworm when planted to Power Plus Herculex I products with Poncho 500. Where black cutworm were present, slight leaf feeding on the older leaves has been observed. After ingesting lethal doses of the Poncho and Herculex BT toxins, feeding stopped before any cutting could occur. For black cutworm these are text book examples of the killing power of Herculex I and Poncho 500.

## Corn Emergence

Poor corn emergence has occurred in a few areas of Illinois and Missouri. Planting dates from April 17 to April 21 appear to be having the most problems, especially in poorly drained fields or portions of fields. Some higher elevation areas of a field have perfect stands, while lower, poorly drained areas require replanting. In most cases the seed started the germination process, then died.

The germination process requires oxygen, but when areas of fields became saturated depleting the oxygen supply, seedlings stopped growing and eventually died. We have not observed any varietal differences when oxygen deprivation occurred. Dr. Emerson Nafziger, University of Illinois Professor of Crop Sciences, recently said “All hybrids require oxygen for germination.”

## Soybeans: Bean leaf beetles

Scouting of early-planted soybean fields for bean leaf beetles (BLB) should begin as cotyledons emerge. High over wintering BLB populations are not expected in most areas, but scouting should occur regardless, to assure crop potential of first emerging soybean fields. Examine five feet of row in each of five locations and divide the number of beetles found by 25 to arrive at the number per foot of row. In addition to counting the number of beetles, estimate the percent of defoliation.

Burrus varieties with Power Shield seed treatment do provide excellent systemic protection of plants from BLB, but should remain on your scouting program to assess protection levels following heavy rains and delayed emergence from cooler temperatures. Several different treatment threshold recommendations can be found.

Missouri: Treat when five or more bean leaf beetles or one damaged plant per foot of row.

Illinois: Seedlings: Treat if 20 percent of the plants are cut and the stand has gaps of 1 foot or more; or if at least 1 seedling per foot of row is destroyed.

## **Soybean Rust Update**

No rust observations were made either March or April in North America. Earlier in 2010, soybean rust was reported on kudzu in one county in Alabama, two counties in Georgia, four counties in Louisiana, and one county in Florida in the U.S. Soybean rust has also been reported in Mexico on soybeans in the state of Tamaulipas in González and Mante municipalities. In Mexico soybean rust has also been reported on jicama in the states of Tamaulipas, Veracruz-Llave, Campeche, San Luis Potosi and Chiapas.

In 2010, soybean rust has been found in eight US counties and five states in Mexico.

North America Soybean Rust website: <http://sbr.ipmpipe.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi>

Illinois Soybean Rust website: <http://www.soybeanrust.org/>

## **The Time Has Come...**

Refuge in the Bag (Optimum AcreMax 1) receives EPA approval and ushers in a new era of insect management convenience to growers of BT corn. Burrus is positioned to be the industry leader in offering this technology to its customers in 2011. More information on the technology, Burrus testing locations, yield results, and Burrus' commanding market position for 2011 will be shared in future Buzz articles.

**Delivering More Than Just Seed!**

