

Burrus Buzz

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White Mold in Soybeans (*Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*)

Craig Kilby

For 2010 the jury is still out on white mold. Temperature and moisture levels the last two weeks of July and the month of August greatly determine its severity. Ideal white mold environment of low July temps and high humidity in 2009 brought about the worst year for the disease in recent memory. The disease has the ability to remain viable in the soil for over 10 years so while rotation may reduce disease potential, it does not eliminate it. The disease enters the plant from spores attached to dying flower blossoms lower on the stem.

Since the disease thrives in a cool, moist environment it normally establishes on the lower stem of the soybean plant near the soil where damp conditions persist longer. These favorable conditions may be further enhanced with taller plant heights and higher populations. For this reason the best management is selecting resistant varieties. Extensive white mold testing establishes solid product ratings for all Power Plus, Hoblit, and Hughes varieties.

Fungicide control of the disease is possible, but requires the application days or weeks prior to visible disease symptoms. Therefore any decision to treat for white mold is a prediction based on weather forecasts or simply a shot in the dark. Another product which has shown good white mold results is the active ingredient Lactofen found in the herbicides Cobra & Phoenix. Sprayed alone or in tank mix combination with other labeled herbicides at R1 stage (beginning flower) has shown very good results in limiting white mold. Though again the treatment must be applied days or weeks prior to visible confirmation of disease.

Western Corn Rootworms? Where are they?

Craig Kilby

Just a few years ago their numbers were so large they even fouled downtown office windows in Chicago and today you can walk through pollinating corn fields and not find any. Certainly some responsibility is due to the high percentage of rootworm Bt hybrids used in Illinois. Even though rootworm BT does not provide 100% control, any surviving rootworms emerge later and may be less successful in reproduction. Both 2009 and 2010 soils were saturated at time of rootworm larvae hatch and newly hatched rootworms are less mobile and susceptible to drowning. Beetles seem to be a bit easier to spot over the past few days as I have been scouting for disease and fungicide application needs. We have found moderate root pruning in the Illinois counties of Livingston and Kankakee, where the rootworm variant populations have been heavy in past years. The need for rootworm protection management in 2011 will remain high.

Seed Corn Production Update

Kevin Burrus

Today 97% of detasseling is completed with one field remaining. Over the past two days most of the production near Arenzville had received 4 to 5 inches of rain. The crop looks excellent other than a few ponded areas. Earworm counts are lower this year than average years with only 0-5 moths/night in traps vs. as high as 200/night for the last week of July. No pollination issues have been noted anywhere in the production fields. Our multi-million dollar corn processing project is moving ahead on schedule. Crop stage today points to a harvest start date of about August 23rd.

Field staff at Arenzville are concentrating their efforts on cleaning and preparing wheel pullers and cutters for winter storage, destroying male row plants in fields, completing inventory, and preparing for the August 19th 75th year celebration field day. We hope everyone will be able to attend this outstanding learning event.

Please Join Us

Don Rhoads

Listed are the locations, times and dates of the 2011 Product Training Meetings. These sessions will focus on the new, exciting products for 2011, their technologies and most importantly proper placement. Bring your appetites for product knowledge and good food. Just let your RSM know which meeting you will be attending.

2011 Product training	Town	Location	Time	RSVP	
Monday, Aug. 2	Burlington, Iowa	Catfish Bend	9:30am	July 25 to Jeff	1-877-927-9674
Tuesday, Aug. 3	Jacksonville	Hamilton's 110 NE	9:30am	July 27 to Gary	1-800-284-8495
Wednesday, Aug. 4	Quincy	Holiday Inn	9:30am	July 27 to Buss	1-877-324-1565
Thursday, Aug. 5	Peoria	Para Dice	6:30 PM	July 27 to Burns	1-800-529-7480
Friday, Aug. 6	Fairbury	Country Club	9:30am	July 27 to Nate	1-800-491-1747
Monday, Aug. 9	Effingham	Kof C	9:30am	Aug.1 to Doug	1-618-843-4859
Tuesday, Aug. 10	Springfield	Northfield Center	9:30am	Aug. 2 to Tim C.	1-618-556-8400
Wednesday, Aug. 11	Chillicothe, MO	Country Club	9:30am	Aug. 3 to Seth	1-800-284-8490
Thursday, Aug. 12	St. Joe, MO	Spanky's Hall	6:30PM	Aug. 3 to Brad	1-877-927-9674
Thursday, Aug. 19	Arenzville	BSF	75th anniversary field day		

Burrus Turns 75

Don Rhoads

Another important date is Thursday, August 19th. Burrus Seed Farms will be celebrating 75 years in the seed business. Plot tours will begin at 8:30a.m. You'll have the opportunity to see the old open pollinated corn varieties, all the way to today's exciting lineup. Old favorites like BX26 and BX70 are also in the plot for your reminiscing. Dihaploid breeding will be demonstrated, as well as the first generation drought gene in a simulated drought stressed environment.

Join us on August 19th for a great time and a great lunch!

New Weed Resistant Issues

Don Rhoads

The University of Illinois has just announced another herbicide weed resistance issue. A population of water hemp is being analyzed for HPPD resistance (Laudis, Callisto, Impact). This is another reason why it's so important to rotate herbicide families from year to year. Palmer Amaranth, (*Amaranthus Palmeri*) has developed glyphosate resistance in the mid south in just a few years. Continuous use of glyphosate allowed this pigweed species to become possibly the most noxious weed in American agriculture history. We may be seeing the same scenario being played out in the Midwest with Palmer's cousin, water hemp (*Amaranthus Rudis*).

We are several months away from making herbicide decisions for 2011. In the mean time you will be hearing more about herbicide weed resistance from University weed scientists, the chemical industry, and we at Burrus will certainly be bringing you more information.



**Glyphosate resistant Palmer Amaranth,
Northeastern Arkansas
July 15, 2010**

