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**Peanut Growers
 Newsletter**

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Late Season Peanut Disease

The peanut crop in Wayne County is entering the final stretch in the growing season with a crop that is looking good with excellent yield and quality potential. We have had excellent weather conditions for crop development which also means we have had excellent conditions for both foliar and soil borne diseases. It is critical to continue to maintain a good disease management program until digging to secure the full potential of this peanut crop.



Early Leaf Spot

Leaf spot advisories have been very active so far this year. Regular rains, warm nights, high humidity, and heavy dews have meant that frequent sprays have been needed. To keep canopies in good shape through harvest, maintaining good leaf spot control in

August and early September is crucial. Effective fungicide programs are designed to prevent leaf spot not try to “cure” it after the fact. But if something goes wrong and you find early or late leaf spot lesions in the bottom of the peanut canopy (particularly with over 30 days to go until harvest) treat immediately with Headline 9-12 oz. + 1.5 pt Bravo, Pro-vost 10.7 oz. + 1.5 pt. Bravo, or 10 fl oz. of Topsin 4.5FL + 1.5 pt. Bravo. Follow up in 10 days with a repeat application. If web blotch is found an application of Headline at 12 oz. /A is the most effective compound to slow disease progression.



Late Leaf Spot

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Late Season Peanut Disease and Insects *(continued from Page 1)*

Using a good soil fungicide is also important since southern stem rot, white mold, is a threat as long as the weather is hot. Fungicides with good white mold activity include: Abound, Artisan, Convoy, Provost, or tebuconazole. Artisan, Convoy, and tebuconazole should be applied with Bravo to maintain leafspot control as well. This year, heavy vine growth and ample moisture has led to some problems with *Rhizoctonia* limb rot. Abound at 19 oz. /A is very effective against *Rhizoctonia*; other soil fungicides listed above are also effective. Avoid vine injury by limiting trips across the field, particularly when vines are heavy with water from rain or dew. It may help to spray at night when leaves are folded. Wrap up the season with a multi-site fungicide like Bravo to prevent build-up of fungicide resistant strains of leaf spot. Growers who planted late may need to extend leaf spot control a bit later into the fall - it will all depend on the weather.

The weather this year has been particularly favorable for *Sclerotinia* blight, and spray advisories have been frequent across the state. Fortunately, reports of outbreaks have been scattered so far. As we move into late summer, we can expect weather to become even more favorable. If this year is like most, night temperatures will begin to drop into the low 70's and morning dews will be common. Dense canopies in late season stay cool and moist for several hours each day, setting up an ideal environment for disease. The fungicides that control *Sclerotinia* blight, primarily Omega (fluazinam), must be used preventively, so it is important to control *Sclerotinia* blight at the first outbreak of disease. If you have applied Omega already, expect it to be effective for about three weeks. Continue to scout carefully and watch *Sclerotinia* advisories starting three weeks after the first fungicide application. Remember that Omega cannot be applied within 30 days of harvest. If disease control has been good through the summer, fungicide sprays made within three weeks of digging give little added benefit, but keep weather in mind that could delay digging.

Late Season Peanut Insects

Corn earworm is the most common foliage feeding insect on peanuts. Corn earworms usually appear in peanut fields in August after the moths emerge from corn fields. Corn earworms initially feed in plant terminals, then blooms, older leaves, and pegs as the worms mature. **Fall armyworms** are not usually an economic problem on peanut, but can occur in very high numbers during outbreak years. This insect usually shows up in peanut fields in mid-August, a couple weeks after corn earworms first appear. The threshold for foliage feeding insects for Rank-growing, unstressed peanuts can tolerate 8 foliage feeding worms per row ft. The treatment threshold is 4 worms per row ft. on stressed plants which have not lapped the middle. Pyrethroids are labeled for control of corn earworms and fall armyworms in peanuts, however, as has been stated many times this season there have been control failures with pyrethroids for corn earworms and higher levels of resistance have been documented. With this in mind it may be wise to apply an alternative insecticide for corn earworms and armyworms. Products that are registered for use in peanuts and will give good levels of control are: Lannate, Steward, Tracer, Orthene, and Belt.

Upcoming Events For Peanut Growers

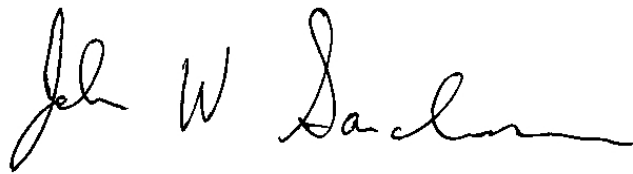
- **Peanut Plot Tour and Field Day—August 30, 2012**

Plot tour will start at 5:00 PM across from 3573 Shoeheel Road, Kenly, NC. From the Field Day, we will go to a sponsored meal at the Wilson County Ag Center at 6:30 PM. The Wilson County Ag Center is located at 1806 S. Goldsboro Street, Wilson, NC. **Please RSVP by Monday, August 27, 2012 by calling Anne at 252-291-0110.**

- **60th Annual Peanut Field Day—September 6, 2012**

Registration at 8:45 AM with Tour Stops beginning at 9:00 AM, Peanut Belt Research Station Lewiston-Woodville, NC

I am pleased to be able to provide you this educational information.



John W. Sanderson
Extension Agent
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Recommendations for the use of chemicals are included in this publication as a convenience to the reader. The use of brand names and any mention or listing of commercial products or services does not imply endorsement by the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned. Individuals who use chemicals are responsible for ensuring that the intended use complies with current regulations and conforms to the product label. Be sure to obtain current information about usage and examine a current product label before applying any chemical. For assistance, contact an agent from North Carolina Cooperative Extension.