



Soybean Nematode, Aphid Event Aug. 28

BROOKINGS — In South Dakota soybean fields the soybean cyst nematode is the most damaging pest. A field day will be held at South Dakota State University Southeast Research Center in Beresford on Aug. 28 to help growers learn more about strategies to manage SCN and the soybean aphid.

“The soybean cyst nematodes are microscopic parasites that infect roots and rob plants nutrients leading to significant yield losses annually,” said Emmanuel Byamukama, SDSU Extension Plant Pathology Specialist.

Byamukama said the challenge with managing soybean cyst nematode (SCN) is that SCN can infect soybean and cause significant yield loss without plants necessarily showing visual symptoms.

Another soybean pest that is of economic importance is the soybean aphid.

“Soybean aphids have piercing-sucking mouthparts that are used to siphon plant sap; visible damage is subtle or unapparent until plants are heavily infested, but yield can still be reduced before this point,” said Kelley Tilmon, SDSU Soybean Entomologist.

Planned activities during the Aug. 28 field day include a SCN demo plot tour, hands-on identification of SCN, and sampling for SCN. Presentations on use of resistant soybean cultivars to manage SCN and aphids, and nematode effectiveness will also be given. All activities start at 6:30 p.m. at the SDSU Southeast Agricultural Research Farm, Beresford. The farm is located at 29974 University Road, Beresford (six miles west of Beresford on Highway 46 and three miles south on University Road).

For more information, visit www.iGrow.org or call (605) 688-4521.

Soybean Yield Contest Entries Sought

The South Dakota Soybean Association (SDSA) encourages farmers to enter the fourth annual South Dakota Soybean Yield Contest.

All South Dakota soybean farmers who produce ten or more acres of soybeans are eligible to enter. Categories for entry are based on soybean maturity (Groups 0, 1, 2, 3) and production practices (No-Till, Irrigated, Non-Irrigated). To enter the 2013 South Dakota Soybean Yield Contest, farmers must complete an Entry Form by Aug. 31 and a Harvest Form by Nov. 1. Growers can enter online and find additional information at www.sdssoybean.org/yieldcontest/.

South Dakota Soybean will award prizes to the top entrants in each category:

1. First place winners in each category receive \$2,000 and up to \$2,000 for a non-transferable trip for two to Commodity Classic in San Antonio, Texas.
2. Second place winners in each category receive \$1,500.
3. Third place winners in each category receive \$1,000.

Growers can enter online and find additional information at www.sdssoybean.org/yieldcontest/.

The Fourth Annual South Dakota Soybean Yield Contest is sponsored by the South Dakota Soybean Research and Promotion Council and managed by the South Dakota Soybean Association.

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug is among the many insects that will be looking to move indoors as autumn approaches. A relative newcomer, this invasive creature not only carries a bad odor but also attacks gardens and crops. (Gary Berron, USDA APHIS, Bugwood.org)



A Stinky Situation

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug Is A New Pest And A Big Headache

BY RITA BRHEL

P&D Correspondent

With autumn around the corner, many homeowners will begin the battle of the bug — when lady beetles, box elder bugs, and other six-legged creatures congregate on houses with one mission: to get inside.

Another common house pest in the fall is the common stink bug, a well-known garden pest. Stink bugs are exceptionally annoying as they release a foul-smelling odor when threatened, making the best control agent the vacuum cleaner emptied outside the house. However, any stink bugs able to overwinter, whether in or outside, will be back in the garden next summer sucking plant juices, spreading disease, and killing vine vegetables like cucumbers and squash.

Now, there is new stink bug to watch out for. The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug looks like a common brown stink bug in size and shape, but it's markings are little different: It's body is mottled brown and gray with white lines on the antennae and alternating white and brown spots down the sides of the wings.

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug is an invasive bug accidentally introduced to the United States from Asia. It was first found in Pennsylvania in 1996.

“This insect is another example of exotic plant pests that are introduced through international trade and impacts our agriculture, natural resources, and the public,” said Philip Marshall, an entomologist with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources in Indianapolis, Ind.

Not only does the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug smell badly like other stink bugs, but it too is a major plant pest.

However, there are very few control options for the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug. So as it spreads across the nation, this insect is destroying both backyard gardens and agricultural crops with alarming efficiency and currently no ability to stop it.

As of May 2013, the insect has been found in 40 states, which includes Nebraska but not yet South Dakota. It was discovered in Nebraska in 2010. It is causing severe problems in six Mid-Atlantic states and nuisance issues in another 13 states from New Hampshire to Tennessee to Michigan as well as along the West Coast and into Canada.

Experience through the years is that the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug becomes a home nuisance for a few years before it builds enough numbers to cause major plant problems, according to Ricky Foster, an entomologist with Purdue University in Ithaca, N.Y., one of the states hit hardest by the bug.

What makes the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug scary is its wide choice in host plants — more than 300 to be exact. It's not only a major pest of vineyards, orchards, and gardens but also of ornamentals and field crops, especially soybeans.

Ames Herbert, Jr., entomologist with the Plant Management Network Interna-

tional in St. Paul, Minn., says soybean producers can reduce risk from the insect by controlling a favorite host plant, tree of heaven, along field borders. In states where the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug has become a major pest, which does not include the Yankton area at this time, producers also need to monitor insect numbers closely, especially at critical points in soybean pod development.

“Like other stink bug species, Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs are attracted to developing seeds and are found in soybean fields at that time,” Herbert, Jr., said.

So far, insecticides have limited effect on these new stink bugs. Researchers are working to find biological enemies, such as parasitic wasps or a fungus, to keep Brown Marmorated Stink Bug numbers at manageable levels, but as there are no promising native species, they are currently looking for Asian species to consider introducing.

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug is still considered a new pest for Nebraska, so the University of Nebraska Extension service is closely monitoring its numbers. Likewise, South Dakota's Extension service should be notified of any suspicious insects matching the description of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug. Homeowners, gardeners, landscapers, and farmers are urged to bring in specimens of this pest to their local county Extension office for identification.

Commentary

The Farm Bill Stalemate And The 1949 ‘Madness’

BY RITA BRHEL

P&D Correspondent

Madness.

That's how it's explained anyhow — the 1949 “permanent” law, what U.S. agriculture would revert back to if a current Farm Bill isn't passed.

Basically, anytime Congress is unable to pass a Farm Bill by the deadline, the agricultural spending package would automatically revert back to the 1949 legislation, reverting policies back to how they were now 64 years ago.

There's a lot of discussion on whether or not to remove the 1949 permanent law from the Farm Bill. On one hand, it's served as a rock-solid threat to keep Congress on its toes. On the other hand, should Congress ever call the law's bluff, 1949 policies are unlikely to work in today's economy. It'd probably be a disaster to the agricultural economy, if not a whole lot bigger deal.

Critics of the permanent law call it “unworkable” because obviously 1949 is way in the past. Did they even have tractors back then? Kidding, but you get the idea. That was a different time, a different era, that is totally incompatible with today's standards.

But others warn that without that “hammer” hanging over Congress's head, it might be easy to let the Farm Bill slide and then suddenly, we'd lose everything. There would not only be no agricultural subsidy programs but also no conservation programs, rural development, nutrition assistance programs, nothing.

This whole way that our Congressional law-making system works is frustrating to me. Keep in mind, though, that I value transparency, honesty, authenticity, and the truth above anything else, but wouldn't we like to think that our government — our elected officials — were telling the truth during their campaigns, that they really would strive to work to-

gether within their party and across party lines, that they could sit down and have a civil conversation and work toward a goal for the betterment of their country.

We, at least I, don't want to think that our elected officials were planning all along to do what happened with the Farm Bill in the House a few weeks ago — one party putting unprecedented, stringent rules on what the other party could contribute to the discussion in order to pass a version of the Farm Bill that would eliminate the entire nutrition assistance programs. I hope I'm not the only one who wants to see

our elected officials treating one another and the issues with respect and fairness, and always keeping the American people at the forefront of the voting decision.

But we're all human. We're all wired with some competitive spirit, with some drive to be divisive, and that utopian image of Democrats and Republicans drafting out a compromise without filibusters and snide comments about each party's pretenses is, quite honestly, unrealistic.

So, with that in mind, I say it's a good thing that there is some provision in the Farm Bill that scares

Congress into passing the Farm Bill each year. Fear is our major motivator in this culture. Whether a court date for speeding or a fine for not filing taxes, threats is what our system of law most relies upon.

About whether it should be workable should the farm

legislation revert back, due to Congress's failure, I don't know. Yeah, it'd be nice if it was something that would be workable in today's global economy. But the fact that it isn't workable is what really puts that sense of fear into the 1949 permanent law and has so far made it work

so well for motivating Congress. So even though it does sound like madness — going back to the 1940s in legislation — it turns out that it's what makes the most sense.

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Labor Day Deadlines

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closed Monday, September 2, for the Labor Day holiday.

The following deadlines will apply:

Out On The Town..... Noon, Wednesday, August 28

Tuesday, September 3 newspaper..... 5 p.m., Wednesday, August 28

Wednesday, September 4 newspaper..... 5 p.m., Thursday, August 29

Thursday, September 5 newspaper..... 5 p.m., Friday, August 30

There will be no newspaper on Monday, September 2, 2013

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Thank You

From the families of Roman (Bud) Becker, we'd like to express our deepest gratitude for your support during this time. We greatly appreciate those who attended Bud's prayer service and for those who made his celebration so special: Father John Pietromale, for his beautiful and comforting words; Deacon Paul Steffen for his guidance and friendship to the family; the musicians, JoAnne Hamilton, Chris and Amber Collier for the inspirational music; and Dr. Roger Filipis for leading the rosary.

As Bud's funeral brought tremendous comfort and peace to the family, we are so grateful to those who came together to celebrate his life. We want to especially thank Mass Celebrants, and again, Father John and Deacon Paul, for sharing Bud's life with us. We thankfully acknowledge as well, JoAnne, Chris and Amber, again for the beautiful music. A special thank you to the Division ladies for providing the delicious luncheon.

We are grateful to Jim, Jerry & Paul Wintz of Wintz Funeral Home, for their caring and professional assistance, which gave us strength during this difficult time.

To our extended family, dear friends, neighbors, and colleagues, to those right in our communities or to those who traveled the distance, we extend our heartfelt appreciation. We treasure the beautiful flowers, plants, cards, memorials, donations, meals, and other acts of kindness, which have deeply touched our hearts.

A special thank you to the VFW Post 5283 for the Military rites and to the pilots, Carrol, Loren, Brent and Jim, as they paid a final tribute to Bud in an "aerial flyover" at the cemetery. We regret those we inadvertently have omitted. Please know that you have our deepest gratitude.

Tom and Gail Becker & Family
Sheane and Ron Hatch & Family
Pam and Ken Schaefer & Family
Deanna and Dave Uhl & Family
Kevin and Tena Becker

Terry Becker
Kristi and David Ekeren & Family
Jana and Dan Ekeren & Family
Chuck and Susan Becker & Family