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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Frogeye on Soybeans in Southern Ohio

I recall finding Frogeye on Soybeans in Southwestern Brown County with Dr. Anne Dorrance when we were actually looking for Soybean Rust back in the years she indicates below. Dr. Dorrance is a Soybean Specialist for Ohio State University Extension. Below she gives a breakdown of what has been discovered in recent days in a posting in this week's CORN Newsletter. If you suspect you have soybeans with Frogeye, please contact me at (937) 515-2314 and I will get samples to Dr. Dorrance. She is actively looking for more samples with this disease.

Late reports of frogeye are developing on susceptible cultivars in southern Ohio. So the next question is what to do. During 2005-2008, we were able to measure a mean difference in yield of 5 to 10 bu/A when soybeans were treated at R3 in fields where frogeye was present. We have also been able to measure a greater yield difference on highly susceptible varieties when frogeye was present during the early flowering stages. However, last year, when frogeye was less than 1 spot per 40' on a moderately susceptible variety, and the conditions were very dry and warm over the next 2 weeks, we could not measure any yield effect – although we could measure differences in the level of disease.

Conditions for frogeye leaf spot are cooler (below 80 degrees F), heavy dews, and frequent rains. Frogeye has a long latent period of 7 to 10 days, which is the time from infection to symptom development and sporulation. Interestingly, it will only infect new foliage, not the older foliage in the lower canopy.

If frogeye can readily be found in the field, indicative a highly susceptible variety then:
 If your soybeans are in the later growth stages (R4 & R5 or greater), and the beans are finished flowering and beginning to fill, there is no need to spray. What lesions will form will be few and will have little impact on yield.

If your soybeans are at R3, they still have more growth to fill out, it is a high yielding field, rains and favorable conditions for infection, our data indicates that you should be able to measure yield differences of 5 bushels or greater.

The next question is which fungicide to use. There are many populations in the region that are no longer controlled by the strobilurin fungicides. Therefore, any fungicide that is used, should not be one of these, and that leaves primarily the triazoles. They are all effective, so price of fungicide and application costs should be a consideration here.

Finally, leave check strips. And leave at least 3 untreated strips and make notes on how much disease was present and the growth stage. This will improve decision making in the future.



Could Small Cows Be an Advantage?

Most likely, if you have been around any stockyards, or any morning gathering place of a bunch of cattlemen, you have probably heard this debate at one time or another. Small cows vs. big cows, which is best may be debatable for years, however I can tell you without much doubt big cows are better when you decide to cull them and sell them by the pound. After that, I am not taking sides just yet, but there is research from Wyoming and Oklahoma State that might make this less of a debate when it comes to making money and total pounds of production.

There was a post that appeared in the August 5 Beef Blog and again August 8 that addresses the situation with 4 years of numbers. You can go to <http://thebeefblog.com> to read about the research done on this topic. As always, if you do not have access to the web and would like to read this information, please stop by the OSU Extension Office for a printed copy. Basically it is showing where you can support smaller cows on less acres (or more small cows on the same acres) and thus produce more calves and more total weight of beef.

Tobacco Research Continues at UK

On Monday, August 8, I attended the University of Kentucky's Annual Tobacco Industry Tour. This is a tour of the research that continues to attempt to improve production and profits for tobacco growers in Kentucky and the entire Burley Belt. The University of Kentucky Tobacco Specialists continues to provide good information and support to Ohio Tobacco Growers and OSU Extension, as they have over the years. UK Specialists have assisted me with many tobacco research plots here in Southern Ohio over the past 18 years. Many of the plots that we have conducted have been continued research and/or demonstration plots similar to work that I have seen on this tour.

This year's tour featured several things including topping height, reducing ground suckers, disease control, fertility and pH issues, experimental varieties, the use of cover crops, chemical topping among other things. Some of the plots are done on the UK Spindletop Farm near the Kentucky Horse Park, but much of the work is replicated on local farms in Kentucky, and sometimes here in Southern Ohio.

Ohio Valley Antique Machinery Show

The show is August 11-14 this year on the grounds just west of Georgetown. For more information about the 46th Annual Show, and the schedule of events go to <http://www.ovams.com/> or call (937) 378-4480.

Dates to Remember

Aug. 11-14	Ohio Valley Antique Machinery Show in Georgetown
Aug. 16	Southwest Corn Growers Field Day in Washington C.H.
Aug. 26	Beef and Forage Field Night at Jackson Research Farm