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Adams Co. Fair in Progress

The Adams Co. Fair started off as I discussed last week. We had our phones out looking at the radar and checking out the clouds, hoping for some rain. I think most people did get some rain, but not near what we had hoped for in many parts of the area. Several reported less than a half of an inch. Enough to help green some grass back up, but it will need more to recover and grow.

Tobacco Update

Like all crops this year, tobacco is at various stages of growth. I have seen tobacco that is blooming and also seen tobacco that looks like it was just put in the field last week.

Later tobacco is normally more susceptible to disease and insect pressure. Scouting of the fields on a regular basis is even more important if preventative pesticides were not used.

For those with tobacco knee high or so, probably too big to cultivate, now is a great time to take advantage of another preventative step to avoid or reduce disease pressure. Target spot usually shows up in the lower parts of the plants when the rows close in as the plants get bigger. This reduces both direct sunlight and airflow. Target spot is sometimes confused for blue mold. Blue mold will have a blue fuzz on the lower side of the leaf. Target spot has the appearance of a target (rings). These brown spots will eventually fall out and cause significant yield loss.

The preventative step is to spray over the top with Quadris at a rate of 6 to 12 oz. per acre. Most of the trials we have done in Southern Ohio and with the University of Kentucky in Ohio and Kentucky have shown that 8 fluid oz. per acre do a good job. By spraying when the tobacco is knee high or so, good coverage can be accomplished with an over the top application without the need for drops.

Insects in Soybeans

I have recently seen quite a few Japanese Beetles on different plants. The following is a recent article from the CORN newsletter and OSU Extension Specialist, Dr. Andy Michel

Last week, I had a chance to scout some very early planted soybean that was in the R1 and R2 stages. A couple of observations:

Japanese beetles and other defoliators: There was a presence of general defoliators in soybean. Our two most common insects are bean leaf beetles and Japanese beetles. While the BLBs were fairly hard to find, Japanese beetles were easier to spot. However, most of the defoliation was light and only present on the top leaves. Remember—it takes a fair amount of defoliation before soybean yield is impacted. The thresholds for defoliation are 40% before bloom, 15% bloom to pod-fill, and 25% after pod fill. But also keep in mind that these thresholds **are based on the whole plant, not just the upper portions**. Additionally, most Japanese beetle defoliation occurs along the edge, so make sure you check the entire field.

Stink bugs: Surprisingly, I collected a fair amount of green and brown stink bug adults, as well as some stink bug egg masses. These eggs will hatch about the time soybean enters the pod stage, where they will then feed on the

developing seed. While we are not at the time where a spray would be necessary, all soybean fields will need to be scouted over the next week for the continued presence of stink bugs.

Dates to Remember

August 28 Jackson Beef and Forage Field Night at the Jackson Branch of OARDC.

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