

# LOUISIANA CROPS NEWSLETTER

## Cotton, Corn, Soybeans, Sorghum



Volume 3, Issue 10 January 2013

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Louisiana Soybean Association  
Annual Meeting  
January 23, 2013  
Dewitt Livestock Facility  
Dean Lee Research Station  
Alexandria, Louisiana

- 11:50 Registration and LSA Membership Drive\*
- 12:00 Welcome  
Dr. Boyd Pagett, Professor and Central Region Director
- 12:10 Lunch – Sponsored by LA Soybean and Grain Research and Promotion Board
- 12:40 LSA Business Meeting  
Damian Glaser, LSA President Presiding  
Call to order and minute approval  
Membership/Treasury Report – Dr. Ron Levy  
Soybean Market Outlook and Dreyfus Update – Dr. Kurt Guidry  
Louisiana Nutrient Management – Dr. Carrie Castille  
LA Farm Bureau Legislative Report – Kyle McCann  
Election of New Officers for 2013 Calendar Year  
New business

### Issue Contributors

Dr. Ronnie Levy  
Dr. Boyd Padgett  
Dr. David Kerns  
Sebe Brown

\* Membership costs are \$55/year or \$155 for three year memberships. To increase its representation on the national level, the LSA is seeking new members to be a part of their organization. By purchasing a three year membership to the LSA for \$155.00 the new or renewing member will receive credit for four bags of seed at their respective seed dealership. After paying for a three year membership and purchasing your seed as you normally do, send in a copy of the receipt and where you purchased your seed back to LSA by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Your account at that seed dealership that you choose will then be credited for four bags by the respective seed representative. The seed companies participating in the LSA membership drive are: Delta Pine/Asgrow Seed Brands, Croplan Genetics, Delta Grow, NK/Syngenta Seed, NC+, Pioneer and Terra and Progeny Ag Products.

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## Louisiana Soybean Association Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

\* Membership costs are \$55/year or \$155 for three year memberships. To increase its representation on the national level, the LSA is seeking new members to be a part of their organization. By purchasing a three year membership to the LSA for \$155.00 the new or renewing member will receive credit for four bags of seed at their respective seed dealership. After paying for a three year membership and purchasing your seed as you normally do, send a copy of the receipt and where you purchased your seed back to LSA by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Your account at that seed dealership that you choose will then be credited for four bags by the respective seed representative. The seed companies participating in the LSA membership drive are: Delta Pine/Asgrow Seed Brands, Croplan Genetics, Delta Grow, NK/Syngenta Seed, NC+, Pioneer and Terra and Progeny Ag Products.

**Mail Membership Application and check payable to Louisiana Soybean Association to:**

Louisiana Soybean Association  
8105 Tom Bowman Dr.  
Alexandria, LA 71302

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## Wheat Disease Management for 2013

Boyd Padgett  
LSU AgCenter

Wheat is affected by several diseases that negatively impact yield if not properly managed. The major wheat diseases are leaf and stripe rust. In LSU AgCenter tests, rust-infested plots yielded over 50% less than non-infested plots. This demonstrates the need to effectively manage these diseases to optimize profits. Other diseases that occur less frequently or are not as widespread are bacterial streak, stem rust, leaf and glume blotch, barley yellow dwarf, and head scab.

To minimize the impact of these diseases, an effective disease management strategy is critical. Therefore, LSU AgCenter scientists conduct research in an effort to develop effective management strategies. This is accomplished in part through assessing genetic disease resistance in varieties entered in the LSU AgCenter 'Official Variety Tests' (OVT). Standardized OVTs are conducted on several research stations every year. Each location represents a unique production area in the state. In addition to variety testing, experimental and commercial fungicides, as well as application timings are evaluated for efficacy against the major diseases affecting Louisiana wheat. Data generated from this research is used to develop extension service recommendations. This information is also used in LSU AgCenter extension programming efforts across the state.

The first step toward an effective disease management strategy begins with proper disease identification. Diseases should be correctly identified in individual fields prior to applying a fungicide. It is important to know what symptoms are associated with each disease and the environmental conditions that favor disease establishment and spread.

**Stripe rust** development is most aggressive when temperatures are 50 to 65°F in the presence of intermittent rain or dews (6 to 8 hours). However, development can occur when temperatures range from near freezing to 70°F. Initial infections on seedling wheat may not have the characteristic striping pattern that occurs on older plants. Seedling infections often occur in 'thumb-sized' clusters on the leaves, as opposed to a random distribution that occurs with leaf rust. Infections may appear as linear rows of small yellow to light orange pustules (stripes) on the lower leaves during late winter or early spring. Striped patterns are typical of infections in older plants. If conditions remain favorable for development, pustules may cover the entire upper leaf surface, as well as portions of the head. A lifecycle (infection to reproduction) can be completed within 7 to 10 days under optimum conditions.

**Leaf rust** is usually evident later in the season than stripe rust. This is because the leaf rust pathogen requires warmer temperatures for development. Initial symptoms of leaf rust begin as light yellow spots, usually on the lower foliage. As the disease develops, small pin-point pustules form on the upper leaf surface. Pustules are brick or dark red and occur randomly on the leaf. Similar to stripe rust, pustules can cover the entire leaf surface if conditions remain favorable for development. The disease develops optimally when nighttime temperatures are 50 to 70°F and leaves remain wet for 6 to 8 hours. Similar conditions favor the development of leaf and glume blotch diseases caused by *Stagonospora* and *Septoria*.

### Disease Management

Effective disease management begins by selecting and planting high-yielding varieties with genetic resistance. Genetic resistance to wheat pathogens is extremely effective. In studies conducted by LSU AgCenter scientists over the past several years, fungicides were not beneficial when applied to resistant varieties. Therefore, planting resistant varieties can save producers more than \$20/A by eliminating the need for a fungicide application. Producers and consultants should check the disease package of their varieties before applying a fungicide. Data can be accessed at:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops\\_livestock/crops/WheatOats/Variety+Trials++Recommendations/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops_livestock/crops/WheatOats/Variety+Trials++Recommendations/)

Genetic resistance is not bulletproof. This resistance can break down over time with pathogen populations evolving to overcome resistance. This was the case in 2010 when stripe rust was seen in AGS2060 (a stripe rust resistant variety). Therefore, agents, producers, and consultants should always scout their crops beginning no later than early spring. In some cases, leaf and stripe rust can develop to very low levels in the fall. Detecting early infections will allow producers to plan for the spring.

When genetic resistance breaks down and disease is identified, a fungicide application may be needed. Typically, a single application at flag leaf emergence (F8) is adequate for managing most foliar diseases of wheat. Based on LSU AgCenter research, fungicides effective for managing leaf and stripe rust are Quilt, Stratego, Twinline or tank mixes of propiconazole (Bumper, Tilt, Propimax) and a strobilurin (Quadris or Headline). Propiconazole, tebuconazole (Folicur, Orius) or Prosaro are also efficacious against rust as well. Strobilurins may be applied alone; however, to optimize the effectiveness of these products, they must be applied before infection by the stripe rust pathogen.

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Realize fungicides are effective against fungal diseases, but NOT effective against bacteria (black chaff) or viral diseases. Application timing and sprayer set up are just as important as the fungicide choice. Ideally, fungicides should be applied before disease onset or when disease incidence is very low. The residual activity of the fungicide may be lost too soon if applied too early. Apply too late, and disease severity may be too high to arrest disease development.

Sprayers should be configured to optimize coverage. Poor coverage of a good fungicide could result in poor disease control. Coverage is affected by gallons per acre, pressure, nozzle size, nozzle type, and nozzle spacing. Aerial fungicide applications should deliver fungicides in 4 to 5 gallons of total solution per acre and ground applications should be configured to deliver 10 to 20 gallons per acre.

Nozzles should be selected that deliver small droplets (200 to 300 microns). Nozzles configured to reduce drift potential will usually result in poor coverage. Boom height and nozzle spacing should be adjusted to the manufacturer's specifications. A boom height too high will increase the potential for drift and a boom height too low will not provide adequate overlap for the nozzles. Pressure should be adequate to force fungicide down in the canopy.

On a final note, remember that an effective disease management program will only be successful when all of the components are working together. Efforts must be made to correctly identify the diseases. Choose high-yielding, disease-resistant varieties, and make timely applications of an efficacious fungicide when necessary. For more information concerning disease management in wheat, contact your local LSU AgCenter county agent/specialist.

### **Corn Insecticide Seed Treatment Options**

Sebe Brown, David Kerns: LSU AgCenter Entomologists

Selecting corn seed treatments can be a challenging and expensive undertaking faced by many producers across Louisiana. Corn seed treatments target three spectrums of pests: nematodes, fungal seedling diseases and insects. This article will address insecticide seed treatment options available for corn.

Insecticide seed treatments are usually the main component of a seed treatment package. Most corn seed available today comes with a base package that includes a fungicide and insecticide. The insecticide options for seed treatments include Poncho (clothianidin), Cruiser/Cruiser Extreme (thiamethoxam) and Gaucho (Imidacloprid). All three of these products are neonicotinoid chemistries. Cruiser and Poncho at the 250 (.25 mg AI/seed) rate are the most common base options available for corn. These insecticides are a good foundation; however, do not expect these treatments to give you extended protection from all below ground pests. If sugarcane beetles have been a problem in the past, Cruiser at the 250 or 500 rate will not provide adequate control; consider using Poncho at the 500 rate with 1250 providing better protection. None of these products provide adequate control of cutworms. Each company offers treatments that provide differing levels of early season insect protection, outlined below are some options available to producers with regards to insecticide seed treatments.

Pioneer's base insecticide seed treatment package consists of Cruiser 250 with Poncho/Votivo 1250 available upon request. Votivo is a biological agent that protects against nematodes.

Monsanto's products including corn, soybeans and cotton fall under the Acceleron treatment umbrella. Dekalb corn seed comes standard with Poncho 250. Producers also have the option to upgrade to Poncho/Votivo, with Poncho applied at the 500 rate.

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Agrisure, Golden Harvest and Garst have a base package with a fungicide and Cruiser 250. Avicta complete corn is also available; this includes Cruiser 500, fungicide, and nematode protection. Cruiser Extreme is another option available as a seed treatment package, however; the amounts of Cruiser are the same as the conventional Cruiser seed treatment ie. 250, 500 or 1250.

Another option is to buy the minimum insecticide treatment available, and have a dealer treat the seed downstream.

It is important to note that below ground Bt traits available for western corn rootworm will not work on our strain of root worm in Louisiana. Look at using in-furrow applications of Counter (organophosphate) or Force (pyrethroid) to help keep rootworms under control. If an ALS herbicide was used in burndown applications or is anticipated, organophosphate insecticides should not be used.

Insecticide seed treatments are a valuable tool that allows producers a head start on early season protection from a variety of pests. Minimizing damage below ground will help get this year's corn crop off to a promising start.

For more information concerning insect pest management, contact your local LSU AgCenter parish agent or LSU AgCenter specialist.

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## Upcoming Calendar of Events



January 23, 2013 - Louisiana Soybean Association  
Annual Meeting, Dewitt Livestock Facility, Dean Lee Research Station  
Alexandria, Louisiana

January 31-February 1, 2013 - National Conservation Systems Cotton and Rice Conference,  
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

February 8-10, 2013 - National Cotton Council Annual Meeting, The Peabody Hotel, Memphis, TN

February 13-15, 2013 - Louisiana Agricultural Technology and Management Conference sponsored  
by the Louisiana Agricultural Consultants Association, Paragon Casino and Resort Hotel, Marksville,  
Louisiana

February 28, 2013 - Southern Cotton Ginners Association Annual Meeting, The Peabody Hotel,  
Memphis, TN

March 1-2, 2013 - Mid-South Farm and Gin Show, The Cook Convention Center, Memphis, TN

June 27-30, 2013 - Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting, New Orleans Marriott, New  
Orleans, Louisiana

**For additional calendar information on LSU AgCenter Parish and Statewide events, visit our  
website at [www.lsuagcenter.com/calendar](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/calendar)**

## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

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Avoyelles	Silas Cecil	318-964-2249	scecil@agcenter.lsu.edu
Beauregard	Keith Hawkins	337-463-7006	khawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu
Bossier	Ricky Kilpatrick	318-965-2326	rkilpatrick@agcenter.lsu.edu
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## Specialists

Specialty	Responsibilities	Name	Phone	Email
Soybean	Soybeans, Corn	Ron Levy	318-542-8857 (cell)	rlevy@agcenter.lsu.edu
Cotton	Cotton,	David Kerns	806-438-6672 (cell)	dkerns@agcenter.lsu.edu
Weeds	Corn, Grain Sorghum, Cotton. Soybeans	Daniel Stephenson	318-308-7225 (cell)	dstephenson@agcenter.lsu.edu
Asst. Integrated Pest Management, Northeast	Cotton, Corn, Soybean, Grain Sorghum	Sebe Brown	318-498-1283	sbrown@agcenter.lsu.edu
Entomology	Cotton, Corn, Soybean, Grain Sorghum	David Kerns	806-438-6672 (cell)	dkerns@agcenter.lsu.edu
Nematodes	All agronomic crops	Charlie Overstreet	225-578-2186	coverstreet@agcenter.lsu.edu
Pathology	Soybean, Corn, Grain Sorghum	Boyd Padgett	318-308-9391 (cell)	bpadgett@agcenter.lsu.edu
Pathology	Soybean, Corn, Grain Sorghum	Clayton Hollier	225-578-1464	chollier@agcenter.lsu.edu
Economics	Cotton	Kurt Guidry	225-578-3282	kmguidry@agcenter.lsu.edu
Ag Economics and Agribusiness	Soybean and Feed Grain marketing	Kurt Guidry	225-578-3282	kmguidry@agcenter.lsu.edu
Fertility	All agronomic crops	J. Stevens	318-308-0754 (cell)	jstevens@agcenter.lsu.edu

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**We're on the Web.**

[www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops\\_livestock/crops](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops_livestock/crops)

<http://louisianacrops.com>

**Louisiana State University Center Agricultural Center, William B Richardson, Chancellor**

**Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station, John Russin, Vice-Chancellor and Director**

**Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, Paul Coreil, Vice Chancellor and Director**

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