



Arkansas Soybean Rust Working Group Update



July 11, 2005

Issue No. 6

The USDA Public Soybean Rust website has undergone a few changes. [Click here for details.](#)

USDA Links
 APHS-PPQ
 Soybean Rust Site
 SRIIS Web site
 National Plant Diagnostic Network site
 Return to USDA Soybean Rust Web Site

Printable Map
National Map Commentary (updated: 07-07-05)
 Soybean rust has now been reported on soybeans in the following locations: Baldwin County in Alabama, Marion County in Florida (6-29) and Seminole County in Georgia. The Alabama and Florida finds were in sentinel sites, while the Georgia find was on volunteer soybeans which have since been destroyed. Seven counties in Florida have now reported soybean rust on kudzu, the latest find was in Gadsden county on July 5th which is adjacent to Leon County in Northern Florida. Intensive scouting is continuing throughout eastern North America from the Gulf coast to southern Ontario wherever soybean is grown with no new finds. Although many areas in the southeast U.S. has been wet this past month, which encourages disease spread, air temperatures are now climbing to levels that are less favorable for spore production. However, if the winds and rain associated with tropical storm Arlene were involved in transporting soybean rust spores from known U.S. sources, and potentially other unknown sources in the U.S. and the Caribbean basin, new soybean rust infections could soon be observed.

Additional Links
 Acrobasis Risk Analysis
 American Phytopath Society Home Page
 Soybean Rust Identification Guide

The following information was provided by Dr. Rick Cartwright, Extension Plant Pathologist, regarding the recent discovery of **suspicious soybean rust spores in neighboring states.**

The adjacent maps come from two websites about the current status of soybean rust in the U.S.

The first is from www.sbrusa.net, the USDA public tracking website that all the universities, etc., are participating in. It shows the confirmed soybean rust locations in the U.S. as of July 7, and the commentary below the map lists the counties in Florida, Georgia and Alabama that have confirmed soybean rust. As County Agents, you should be looking at this site often.

The second map is from the Syngenta Website www.soybeanrust.com, and it shows "different" information, about which I have received several calls. At the present time, the first map is correct and **the second map is wrong.** Locations on the Syngenta Map indicated as positive in

Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky and various sites in Alabama and Georgia have not been confirmed as soybean rust. At this time, **soybean rust has not been found in Louisiana, Kentucky, or Tennessee.**

soybeanrust.com Syntinel Rust Tracker National RustTracker AccuWeather.com

Zoom In
 Legend/Layer
 Zoom In
 Zoom Out
 Pan
 Print
 Help

Legend
 States
 Syngenta Spore Trap Network as of July 7, 2005
 Confirmed
 Not found
 USDA Scouted Counties as of 6 July 2005
 USDA Data, Scouted Confirmed Rust
 USDA Data, Scouted Not Found
 Counties

Copyright 2005 Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.

Quilt
 Quadris
 TILT
 syngenta solutions

Copyright 2005 Syngenta | [Supporters.com](#) | [User Agreement](#) | [Privacy Statement](#)

WHY THE CONFUSION?

We are cooperating with other universities and Syngenta in the development of a spore trapping and detection system. There are spore traps located at various locations in each of the southern states.

The traps hold a greased microscope slide facing into the wind. Spores and other particles land on the Vaseline and stick in place. The slides are collected once or twice a week and shipped to our laboratory at UA

Fayetteville, where the greased area is examined with a microscope in a systematic fashion. Spores that resemble those produced by the soybean rust fungus are noted and photographed, and this information is relayed back to the cooperator where the slide came from. **However, we have no way of confirming whether the spores that resemble soybean rust spores are actually soybean rust, or whether they come from some other rust fungus.**

You should remember that there are many rust fungi out there on weeds, grasses, and other crops, and many may produce similar looking spores. We notify cooperators so that they can more intensely examine soybeans, kudzu, and other known hosts of soybean rust in the area where these "suspect" spores were collected. If they find soybean rust on plants and confirm it with a microscope and PCR testing, then that area is truly positive for the disease. If soybean rust is not found on plants in the area after intensive scouting, then the spores we have observed may be from another rust fungus. It might also be possible that they are rust spores that blew in from a greater distance. But the point is that until soybean rust is confirmed in an area on plants, the area is not positive. and soybean rust does not occur there.

Obviously, all of this can change. That is why we are all out looking every few days so intensely. That way, we can be assured of detecting soybean rust early and accurately report where it is.

So, to repeat:

- Soybean rust has been found in Florida, Georgia, and southern Alabama.
- Soybean rust has not been found in any other state yet, including Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, or Kentucky.

We know that this situation can change, and if it does, you will be immediately updated. It's important, however, to stick to the facts.

Arkansas is Our Campus

Visit our website: www.aragriculture.org

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.