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Serving Clay, Buena Vista, Dickinson, Emmet, Kossuth, and Palo Alto Counties

Soybean aphids. Continue to check for soybean aphids. Aphids will continue to damage soybeans until the early R6 stage.

Soybeans grow very few leaves after the R5 stage. Therefore, aphids will be scattered throughout the plant – and are more difficult to count. Also, aphids will be smaller and will have less green color. However, these yellowish aphids will reproduce and damage soybeans.

Soybean growth stages and days until maturity.

Stage	***description***	***days until mature.***
R4	full size pod at top 4 nodes	42 days.
R5	seed is 1/8 long in pod at top 4 nodes	33 days.
R6	seed fills the pod cavity in the pod at top 4 nodes	18 days.

The R5.5 stage is where the plant reaches its maximum dry weight accumulation. Therefore, the soybean plants needs to be protected through the R5 stage (such as from aphid damage) to maximize yield potential. Treating soybeans for aphids through the early R6 stage may provide an extra level of aphid protection.

Sudden death syndrome. Sudden death syndrome (SDS) is present in some fields. Brown stem rot (BSR) and SDS can look similar.

	BSR	***SDS***
Foliar symptoms	sometimes	yes
Leaf drop, petiole attached	no	yes
Pith turns brown	yes	no
Root rot	no	yes

More on SDS.

- Soybean cyst nematode (SCN) makes both diseases worse – especially SDS.
- Crop rotation away from soybean will help manage BSR but not SDS.
- SDS can survive for several years in the soil.
- Foliar symptoms (interveinal chlorosis) occur when the leaf area between the leaf veins turn brown.
- Earlier planting dates and wet cool conditions favor the development of SDS.
- SCN resistant varieties will help reduce SDS.

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