Soybean Aphids

I have heard reports of some folks spraying soybean aphids for the second time this growing season. This is likely due to the fact the first application happened in advance of threshold levels and too early to treat migrating aphids that have now re-populated fields. A complicating factor to this is when we spray insecticides too early we also kill beneficial insects that are contributing to control of the aphids. One final thing to remember is insecticides for aphids have limited residual activity. Organophosphates have about 3 days of residual and pyrethroids about 7 days of residual activity. ISU's recommendation is not to treat for aphids once we hit R5.5. If you have later planted beans and have not yet reached this development stage, continue to scout and monitor aphid populations. These fields are highly attractive to soybean aphids. Use the Speed Scouting guide to monitor activity and help make decisions as to if and when to treat.

Cover Crops and Opportunities

If you are interested in trying cover crops for the first time, or just want to learn more, there are plenty of opportunities to see "how" and learn the "whys" in the events listed below. Take time to visit with neighbors and friends who are using cover crops.

We are very quickly approaching the optimal time for cover-crop seeding. Mark Licht, cropping systems agronomist at ISU, and Tom Kaspar with the USDA National Lab for the Environment offer tips for...
Potential of Cover Crops In Iowa, by Dr Tom Kaspar. Additional details here.

August 19, 1-4:15 p.m. Crops Field Day at the ISU Northeast Research Farm near Nashua.

August 26-27. ISU Extension and Outreach is offering a late season crop management clinic at the Field Extension Education Lab (FEEL). The clinic will focus on decisions made throughout the growing season and the results of those decisions. Specialist will also present information on their latest trials and how this information translates into management recommendations. Additional details and registration information available here.

August 27, 5-7 p.m. Nutrient Reduction Strategies Field Day at the Drainage Research and Demonstration Site at Gilmore City. This event celebrates 25 years of research at this farm. The event is free and open to the public and includes a complimentary dinner. For more information click here.

September 2, 5-7:30 p.m. Conservation at Work Field Day at the Smeltzer Learning Farm near Otho. This field day will look at bioreactors, cover crops, wetlands and discuss the use of drones in ag. Tours of the farm will start at 4, dinner will be served by the Webster County Cattlemen at 5, the program will follow shortly and tours will continue after the program. Additional details will be posted as they become available.

September 3. Northern Iowa Research Farm Association fall field day will start with registration at 9 a.m., the program will start at 9:30 a.m. Matt Schnabel, new farm superintendent will kick-off the field day with
recent staff changes and a season review of the farm, Dr. Antonio Mallarino will discuss fall fertilizer options, Dr. Daren Mueller will highlight results of the soybean Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) research plots at the Kanawha farm, Paul Kassel will discuss crop development issues, management of northern corn rootworm extended diapause, and late season crop diseases, and Angie Rieck-Hinz will highlight benefits of cover crops on water quality. Lunch will be provided at the end of the plot tours. If you have questions please call Angie at 515-231-2830. CCA credits will be offered. Activities will take place at the "south" farm, located 1 mile south of Kanawha on county road R35.

September 9, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A Soil Health Partnership demonstration field day sponsored by Hagie Mfg., Iowa Corn Growers Association and the Soil Health Partnership will be held at the Tim Smith farm, 2634 Hancock Ave, Eagle Grove, IA. Please R.S.V.P to jhermsen@iowacorn.org

September 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Boone River Watershed is hosting a water quality field day at the Arliss Nielsen farm, 3150 Hancock, Ave, Woodstock, IA. This field day will focus on cover crops and bioreactors and impacts to water quality. The Iowa Soybean Association will provide a meal. The field day is open to all interested persons.
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