

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Current Peanut Situation and Production Update**
- **Peanut Disease Awareness**
- **Mid-season Weed Control Options in Peanut**

Current Peanut Situation and Production Update

*Jodd Baughman – State
Peanut Agronomist*

I think that with the rainfall and cool, cloudy weather many of us have forgotten that we are in the middle of summer. However, with the recent warming trend one thing we do not want to do is get behind on irrigation this year. While the abundant moisture has eased irrigation requirements early on we are now in the peak period of water demand in many parts of the state and will continue

through pod and kernel development. For growers in parts of the state that have not entered flowering



Center Pivot Irrigation

or pegging this may not be as critical now but will be in the not too distant future. The tendency in wet years

is to hold off on watering which in the end can potentially hurt yields. Typically with our irrigation situation in Texas once you get behind on water you can never irrigate yourself out of that hole. It appears that we have the potential for an excellent crop so let's keep building on that potential. During peak water demand (coinciding with bloom, peg, and pod set) the peanut plant will require between 1.5 and 2.0 inches of water per week. This must be supplied through stored moisture,

Peanut Disease Awareness

*Jason Woodward –
Extension Plant Pathologist*

Recent evaluations of research plots in Western Gaines County have revealed the onset of Sclerotinia blight; therefore, it is time to consider scheduling fungicide applications. In

addition, producers also need to be mindful of initial fungicide applications needed to control pod rot. When developing fungicide programs for control of the aforementioned diseases it is important to properly diagnose which disease(s) you are dealing with. A statement that is easier said than done. Several

diseases mimic Sclerotinia blight, including Botrytis blight, and Southern stem rot. Initial symptoms of Sclerotinia blight include a yellowing and/or wilting of lateral branches. A closer examination within the plant canopy will reveal a cottony, white, moldy growth; which is most commonly observed early in

Current Peanut Situation and Production Update - Continued

“Water stress needs to be minimized as much as possible.”

rainfall, or supplemental irrigation. Water stress needs to be minimized as much as possible. Water stress in conjunction with high temperatures and low humidity will decrease the number of flowers formed and set.

One thing that we must always be aware of is that it is critical that we set as early a crop as possible; this can only be accomplished by not stressing the plant during the initial part of the fruiting period. For additional

irrigation information see the Texas Peanut Production Guide at <http://peanut.tamu.edu>. If you have any production questions contact Todd Baughman @ 940.552.9941x233.



Jason Woodard—
Extension Plant Pathologist

Peanut Disease Awareness Continued

the morning. As the disease progresses, infected stems have a bleached appearance and become shredded. Small, black, irregular-shaped structures (sclerotia), which serve as over-wintering structures, may be produced on or within infected tissues. Currently, there are only two fungicides that are labeled for control of Sclerotinia blight in peanut. Omega 500F is labeled 1.0 to 1.5 pint per acre, whereas, the maximum labeled rate for Endura is 10 fl oz per acre.

As is the case with Sclerotinia blight, an accurate identification of the pathogen causing pod rot is required in order to choose the proper fungicides. There are two pathogens, *Rhizoctonia solani* and *Pythium* spp., responsible for the majority of pod rot problems in the region. Infected pods are quite similar in appearance, making it very difficult to distinguish between the two. Furthermore, the two may also be found infecting pods simultaneously. Infected pods initially exhibit light brown lesions, which turn dark brown to black as the disease progresses. A subtle difference between the two is that pods infected with *Pythium* typically have more

of a water soaked appearance, whereas, pods infected with *Rhizoctonia* have more of a dry rot appearance. Fungicides labeled for control of *Rhizoctonia solani* and *Pythium* spp. is limited. Abound 2.08F at the maximum rate (24.6 fl oz per acre) is labeled for control of *Rhizoctonia* pod rot, but only suppression of *Pythium* pod rot. Various formulations of the fungicide Ridomil are available for control of *Pythium* pod rot, but these products have little to no activity on *Rhizoctonia solani*. If you have any questions regarding peanut pod rot please contact Jason Woodward at the Lubbock Center 806.746.6101.



Rhizoctonia (Pod Rot)

Mid-Season Weed Control Options in Peanut



Peter Dotray - Extension Weed Scientist

Herbicides applied preplant and preemergence, or postemergence contact herbicides have likely done what they can and new weed flushes may start to emerge. In other words, good early season weed control may need some attention because previously applied herbicides have broken down over time. So what options do we have at this time of year? There has been some good discussion about herbicides applied to peanuts in bloom and the potential for increased injury. We have looked at this timing issue for several herbicides, including Cadre, Pursuit, Ultra Blazer, 2,4-DB, and most recently Cobra. We have not seen a problem when these herbicides are properly applied within labeled rates at this time of year. Each of these herbicides has a preharvest interval (PHI) restriction, which is generally between 30 and 90 days before harvest.

Cobra may be used at 12.5 ounces per acre, and up to two applications may be made per season. Cobra has a 90 day PHI. Ultra Blazer may be used at 1 to 1.5 pints per acre and up to 2 pints

Palmer Amaranth (Pigweed, Carelessweed) may be used per season. Ultra Blazer has a 75 day PHI. Basagran may be used at 1 to 2 pints per acre through pegging and up to 4 pints per acre per season. Storm may be applied at 1.5 pints per acre and up to 3 pints per acre per season. Storm has a 75 day PHI. None of these herbicides are active through the soil (i.e. generally considered contact herbicides), so new weed flushes after application may occur. If Pursuit or Cadre were used at their full rates (1.44 ounces of the DG formulation or 4 ounces of the liquid), a sequential application should not be applied. If a reduced rate (0.72 ounces of the DG formulation or 2 ounces of the liquid) was used at the first application, then a sequential reduced rate application may be applied. It is not recommended to use the full rate of both these herbicides because of rotation crop concerns, weed resistance management, and overall crop response. 2,4-DB 200 (Butyrac 200, Butoxone 200) may be used in peanut at a rate of 0.8 to 1.6 pints per acre. 2,4-DB 175 (Butyrac 175, Butoxone 175) may be used at 0.9 to 1.8 pints per acre. All of these rates are equivalent to 0.2 to 0.4 pounds of active 2,4-DB per acre. The second application should not be made later than the late bloom stage of peanut (about 90 to 100 days after planting) or within 30 days of harvest.

In general, a six-hour rain free period is sufficient for most herbicides, although some formulations have decreased this time to approximately one hour. Many postemergence (POST) herbicides require a spray additive to ensure maximum herbicide performance. In West Texas, a crop oil concentrate is recommended over non-ionic surfactants for many herbicides, while for other herbicides, the choice is not as critical. Some herbicides suggest the addition of liquid nitrogen fertilizers or dry spray grade ammonium sulfate for improving herbicide performance. Mixing order and compatibility are an issue for many herbicides; therefore, always carefully read and follow label instructions for maximum herbicide performance. Thorough coverage can be accomplished by applying herbicides to smaller weeds, increasing the carrier volume and/or spray pressure, proper boom height, and accurately applying the herbicide to weeds growing beneath the crop canopy (through various nozzle arrangements and spray equipment). If you have any questions in regards to weed control contact Peter Dotray @ 806.742.1634.

“Many POST herbicides require a spray additive to ensure maximum performance”



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