



The University of Georgia

®

## CRISP CO. AG NEWSLETTER – September 09

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### AROUND THE COUNTY

Peanut digging time is upon us. We need to keep a close eye on maturity dates, vine condition, weather and the other factors that determine when to dig. I will have no set times or dates dedicated to peanut maturity pod blasting so we'll do samples whenever and wherever you wish. Gone is the big cumbersome metal pod blaster that sand blasts the outer hulls of pods; that has been replaced with a portable pressure washer and metal baskets. I'll be happy to run peanut maturity checks at the extension office or on your farm if you wish. John Beasley has talked about a quick way of determining peanut age by using the "123 method." It works like this - a field of peanuts planted on a certain day in the month of May will be 123 days old that same date in September. So a field of peanuts planted May 15<sup>th</sup> will be 123 days old on Sept 15<sup>th</sup>. We continue to get updates on the Asiatic Soybean Rust. We've had our first confirmed case in Crisp County last week (9/16). This is not a big surprise as it is getting late in the season, and the disease has been confirmed in other counties. It's better to find this disease late in the year when soybeans are in R6 stage rather than in June. If soybeans are already dropping leaves – pods are filled out; soybean rust should not cause alarm. Below is more information on soybean rust.

### PEANUT CULTIVARS AND MATURITY RANGES (Beasley)

Here are the runner cultivars and their relative maturity range under "normal" growing conditions.

#### *Early (120-130 DAP)*

AT 215

#### *Mid Maturity Range (135-140 DAP)*

Georgia Green

Georgia-06G

Tifguard

AT 3085RO

Georgia Greener

Georgia-03L

AP-4

#### *Mid-Late (7-10 days later than Mid Maturity cultivars)*

Florida-07

Georgia-07W

McCloud

AP-3

#### *Late (2-3 weeks later than Mid Maturity cultivars)*

Georgia-02C

York

It is very important to remember that maturity range can be affected by several factors, especially climatic factors such as temperature and moisture. You can have the same or two different cultivars in the same maturity group planted on the same day in different fields mature at different rates due to soil type differences, rainfall variation, or pest problem differences. Do not assume that a cultivar will always mature at its “normal” rate. I would not be surprised to see a Georgia-06G reach optimal maturity at 130 days if planted in early June due to the heat unit accumulation in June and July. Any cultivar may have started blooming earlier than normal due to the heat units. On the other side, we have seen our April planted trials take 145-150 days for the mid maturing cultivars to reach optimal maturity due to the cool mornings in April delaying bloom initiation.

Once the minimum temperature drops into the lower 50’s and upper 40’s you will see the maturation process slow, but not stop. Our experience is that the maturation process does not stop until the temperature drops into the lower 40’s or lower. The “normal” minimum temperature at Tifton (based on an 83 year average) is 61 degrees on October 1st and 51 degrees on November 1st. Therefore, if we have “normal” minimum temperatures through October and early November, then we should see the maturation of fields planted in early to mid June continue until optimal maturity is reached.

Peanut fields planted on June 15 will be 139 DAP on November 1st. Any fields planted after June 15th will be at some risk of not reaching optimal maturity if we below normal temperatures in November, which is more likely to happen than in October. We must be patient with these late planted fields. Unless we have minimum temperatures like we did in October of 2006 and 2008 where we dropped into the 30’s for several mornings in a row, we should be OK.

It will be critically important to stay on a fungicide program up until two weeks of harvest, even in October when we start to get cooler. Occasional rainfall events and warm temperatures are still enough for diseases to spread.

### **IRRIGATION DECISIONS LATE IN THE SEASON (Beasley)**

Producers that have the capability to irrigate may be tempted to discontinue irrigation because it is “fall”. It doesn’t matter what day the calendar is on, fields that are still 3 weeks or longer away from harvest may need to be irrigated. October is typically the driest month of the year. In most years, a high percentage of fields would have already been harvested or within a couple of weeks of harvest as we enter October. However, because we planted as much as 40% of the acreage in Georgia after May, there are a lot of fields that may need to be irrigated well into October.

If a field is more than three weeks from harvest and is in need of moisture, apply up to 1.5 inches in a week. Fields that are greater than three weeks from harvest have a high percentage of pods that still need to finishing filling out and maturing. Do not back off on irrigation even if it is in October and the temperatures are cooler. One thing in our favor in October is there is typically lower humidity, which means less evapotranspiration.

### **PULLING PEANUTS FROM THE FIELD TO HULL SCRAPE**

A peanut hull scrape maturity check will be as accurate as the sample that you take. Pull or dig up at least five adjacent plants from at least three representative parts of a field which can be dug in one day. Keep these samples from each area of the field separate. Pick all pods off the plants until you get 180-220 pods. Once you have passed 180, finish the plant you are pulling the pods from and stop there. If it will be a while before you can hull scrape the sample, keep the pods in water in a bucket to keep them fresh.

### NAME THIS WEED

Here is a weed you've probably seen before. It is a summer annual weed that rears its ugly head as soon as it warms up. If left uncontrolled it will grow into a large flat, mat shape, like in the picture. It has actually been sold as an ornamental under the alias "Moss Rose" or "Paraguayan Purslane." It has quarter sized showy pink and red flowers usually in the morning. It is often seen growing in bare spots in turf grass. This is Broadleaf Pink Purslane, *Portulaca amilis*.



### RECOMMENDED WHEAT VARIETIES FOR FALL PLANTING 2009

*I know peanut digging season is forefront but soon we'll be looking to plant small grains after harvest is over. Here is some info on wheat varieties. This is from a recent handout from Dewy Lee our UGA Small Grain Specialist. Hope you find this useful.*

One of the most important decisions that growers make in growing wheat is choosing the right variety or varieties to plant. Many differences exist among the varieties and therefore it is important to assess what characteristics are most important for their production area. Growers should choose several varieties to plant to reduce risk and improve their chances of success every season. The following information is provided to understand the differences in each of the varieties that are recommended in Georgia. Table 1-4 are included to provide comparative information on wheat.

#### **AgSouth Genetics (AGS):**

**AGS 2000** is considered one of two standard wheat varieties grown in Georgia. The other is Pioneer 26R61. AGS 2000 requires the use of a fungicide to maximize yields. Although this variety is resistant to hessian fly, AGS 2000 may respond to an insecticide since several new races of hessian fly are prevalent. **Due to pest pressure and loss of yield competitiveness, this variety will be dropped in 2010.**

**AGS 2031** has excellent yield and good test weight. It has a high three year average across the Tifton, Plains and Midville locations. It has excellent leaf rust resistance ratings however **it is susceptible to Hessian fly** and must be treated with an at-plant insecticide. In addition it is rated moderately susceptible to powdery mildew. This variety has the excellent straw strength.

**AGS 2060** is one of a handful of early maturing varieties with excellent yield potential. It has very good leaf and stripe rust resistance, fair powdery mildew resistance and very good Hessian fly resistance and test weight. It has a short vernalization requirement and matures earlier than AGS 2000 or 2031. It will lodge with high N rates.

**AGS 2010** is an early maturing variety that has a longer vernalization requirement than AGS 2000 and therefore should only be planted within the recommended planting period. Its yield is equal to Fleming, another early

maturing variety. It will lodge with high N rates. **This variety will be dropped from our recommendation list in 2010.**

**AGS 2020** is a new AGS variety recommended for Georgia. It is approximately four days earlier than AGS 2000 and has excellent disease resistance, yield, test weight and straw strength. It also has very good soil borne mosaic virus resistance. AGS 2020 has only **fair tolerance to Hessian fly** and therefore should be treated with an at-plant insecticide.

**AGS 2026** is a AGS variety recommended for Georgia. While this variety has slightly less straw strength than AGS 2020, it is an excellent variety with very good disease resistance and Hessian fly resistance. In addition, it is one of a very few varieties with Biotype L Hessian fly resistance. It has good soil borne mosaic virus resistance. This variety requires more vernalization than AGS 2000.

**AGS 2035** is a new recommended variety for the 2009-2010 season. It was developed by the University of Georgia and has good leaf and stripe rust resistance, good test weight and yield, moderate hessian fly resistance but is susceptible to powdery mildew. It is medium maturing with good soil borne virus resistance.

#### **UniSouth Genetics (USG):**

**USG 3209** has been sold in Georgia for several years. It demonstrates some susceptibility to certain biotypes of Hessian fly and therefore should be treated with an at-plant insecticide. It is an early maturing variety and well suited for the upper coastal plains. This variety responds well to a fungicide. It has very good yield if managed with pesticides. **This variety will be dropped in 2010.**

**USG 3295** is equal in yield to AGS 2000. It is similar in maturity but has better disease resistance and unfortunately **is susceptible to current biotypes of Hessian fly** and therefore must be treated with an insecticide.

**USG 3592** in Georgia is earlier than USG 3295 and yields slightly less than 3295 but similar to Fleming. It is susceptible to stripe rust but resistant to leaf rust and powdery mildew. It has some resistance to certain biotypes of Hessian fly. It will lodge with high N rates. **It is recommended for north Georgia only and will be dropped from the recommendation list in 2010.**

#### **Pioneer:**

**Pioneer 26R61** is considered one of two standard wheat varieties grown in Georgia. The other is AGS 2000. Pioneer 26R61 still has good resistance to stripe rust and soil borne mosaic virus but is susceptible to most other wheat diseases (mildew, leaf rust, glume blotch) and therefore responds well to a fungicide treatment. It has good yield and test weight. Currently, it is the only Pioneer line recommended for Georgia

#### **Syngenta Seeds:**

**Coker 9553** is a medium maturing variety with yield equal to Pioneer 26R61 and AGS 2000. It is slightly susceptible to leaf rust and glume blotch and therefore responds well to a fungicide. **It is susceptible to Hessian fly and is recommended for North Georgia only.**

**Magnolia** is a variety that is well suited for North Georgia. It has good yield, test weight and straw strength but is susceptible to hessian fly, leaf rust and powdery mildew but is resistant to stripe rust. It is recommended that an insecticide and fungicide be used with this variety.

### **Dyna-Gro Seed:**

**Oglethorpe** has above average yield in both north and south Georgia. It has good resistance to leaf and stripe rust but only fair tolerance to powdery mildew. This variety has Biotype L Hessian fly resistance. Care should be taken with nitrogen applications as it only has fair straw strength.

**Baldwin** is a UGA release that has good hessian fly resistance, good leaf and stripe rust resistance, good yield, test weight and soil borne virus resistance. It is moderately resistant to powdery mildew. It is medium late in maturity with a moderate vernalization requirement.

**Dominion** is recommended for **north Georgia only**. It has very good powdery mildew resistance and yield but **is susceptible to Hessian fly** and should be treated with an insecticide. **This variety will be dropped from the recommendation list in 2010.**

### **Southern States Seeds:**

**Southern States (SS) 8641** is a good yielding wheat with excellent disease and Hessian fly resistance. It has good straw strength and test weight. It matures later than AGS 2000 and Pioneer 26R61 and should not be planted past the recommended planting window in Georgia.

**SS 8308** has a very long vernalization requirement and is recommended for North Georgia only. It's pest resistance is fair to poor but performs well in north Georgia. Fungicides and at plant insecticides are recommended for use when planting this variety.

### **Public varieties:**

**Fleming** is the earliest maturing wheat in Georgia. It has very little vernalization requirement and, therefore, should be planted in the later ¼ portion of the recommended planting period. In late plantings in Georgia (after recommended planting periods), Fleming provides some of the highest yields of all the varieties tested.

**Caution:** Fleming has a physiological spotting that is easily mistaken for leaf disease. All lesions should be carefully examined to make sure a proper diagnosis is made when considering a fungicide.

**Jamestown** is a new variety with good yield but moderate susceptible to leaf rust, good resistance to powdery mildew and stripe rust. It is susceptible to hessian fly. It is recommended that this variety be treated with an at-plant insecticide.

**Roberts** is one of the oldest public varieties still recommended however it is recommended for **forage production only**. It has good resistance to glume blotch but is susceptible to all other foliar diseases and requires a fungicide for adequate seed production. It is a late maturing variety that has a long vernalization requirement.

## **PECAN VARIETIES**

It's never too early to purchase commercial pecan trees. Often if you wait till the winter, you're already too late. Here are some sites you may find useful in obtaining pecan trees for commercial orchards. Here is a site of mentioning some pecan nurseries.<http://www.tifton.uga.edu/ugapecan/PECAN%20NURSERY%20LIST.pdf>

Choose cultivars carefully as this, along with selection of the orchard site, is one of the most important decisions you will make in the life of the orchard. Current recommended cultivars for commercial production in Georgia are Caddo, Cape Fear, Desirable, Elliot, Forkert, Kanza, Oconee, Pawnee, and Sumner. There are many other varieties that are recommended under certain conditions or for trial. These include Candy, Creek, Excel, Gloria Grande, Kiowa, Moreland, and Stuart. Information on all of these cultivars and more is available from UGA Cooperative Extension Bulletin 898 "Pecan Varieties for Georgia Orchards", which can be found at <http://pubs.caes.uga.edu/caespubs/pubcd/C898/C898.htm>

For more detailed information on these and many other pecan cultivars, see the UGA Pecan Breeding webpage at <http://sacs.cpes.peachnet.edu/pecan/>

## **NAME THAT WEED**

Hopefully very few people in Crisp County have seen this weed - although it does exist in Crisp County. Regardless you need to know what it is in case you do as it is wide spread in south GA. Once you see it, don't hesitate to get rid of it. Some bad infestations of this weed have been found in the counties bordering FLA. This weed is more of a nuisance and is not really comparable to our pigweed problems. Regardless we don't need any more nuisances if we can prevent them. The stems will creep along the ground and root at the nodes. Vegetative cuttings from stems are capable of rooting and reestablishing following cultivation. The weed will produce seed above and below ground. This is Tropical Spiderwort.



## Asiatic Soybean Rust – Jared Whitaker UGA Soybean Extension Specialist

Soybean rust has been found in a large number of soybean producing counties to date. Much of the crop is planted behind winter grain crops and planting this year was likely extended further than normal with the exceptionally wet spring in 2009. In late-planted soybean, there have been questions about when soybeans are “safe” from the effects of rust. Soybean should be safe from rust when they are near or have reached full seed, or at the R6 stage. Fungicide labels also have restrictions on when soybean growth stages as to when they can be applied. Below is a table further describing soybean growth stages.

Table 1. Description of soybean growth stages. Adapted from Fehr et al. 1971.

Reproductive Stages		Description
R1	Beginning bloom	One flower at any node.
R2	Full bloom	Flower at node immediately below the uppermost node with fully unrolled leaf. Usually occurs 1 day after R1.
R3	Beginning pod	Pod ¼ inch long at one of the four uppermost nodes. Typically 10-12 days after R2.
R4	Full pod	Pod ¾ inch long at one of the four uppermost nodes. Typically occurs 8 to 10 days after R3.
R5	Beginning seed	Beans beginning to develop (can be felt when the pod is squeezed) at one of the four uppermost nodes. Typically occurs 9 to 11 days after R4.
R6	Full seed	Pod containing full size green beans at one of the four uppermost nodes. Typically occurs 13 to 17 days after R5. Safe from the effects of rust.
R7	Beginning maturity	Pods yellowing; 50% of leaves yellow. Physiological maturity.
R8	Full maturity	95% of pods brown. Harvest maturity.

A more extensive description of soybean growth stages (with pictures) can be found at:

[http://www.clemson.edu/edisto/soybeans/growth\\_stages/](http://www.clemson.edu/edisto/soybeans/growth_stages/)

<http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/plantsci/rowcrops/a1174/a1174-2.htm#Reproductive>

Link to “Soybean Rust Management in the Mid-Atlantic Region:

<http://www.soybeans.org/research/SC%20Rust%20soybean%20booklet.pdf>

# SPIDER!



## Watch Out For These!

These are a locally grown Brown (not black) Widow Spiders. You don't have to look hard to find these. They are just as poisonous as black widow. Look for egg sacks with spikes (in pictures) – only brown widow spiders make such egg casings. I would almost venture to say they are just as common as our typical southern house spider around barns, 5 gal buckets, used pesticide jugs, old equipment, etc... These first came on the scene a couple years ago from Florida and have really thrived in our area. Its hour glass is more orange than red and its color is comparable to desert camouflage.

(We don't have brown recluse spiders in our area.)



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