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THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

May 14, 2011

Farmers and Agribusiness,

Irrigating is the main job this week it seems, with corn needing it badly as it starts to tassel and some silking is beginning, and cotton needing it to get a stand and peanuts needing it to be able to prepare the soil and to water in herbicides. Not to mention snap beans in their final days before harvest. A couple of farmers told me they drove over a thousand miles last week just in the county checking on and going to work on irrigation systems. We're praying for rain.



As you can see here where the irrigation doesn't reach the edge of the field the corn looks terrible.

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Canola harvest this week at Stephen Houston's went well, but he says disease hurt his yields this time. He'll soon plant cotton here.

Here's a link to a video I shot of the harvest.

http://youtu.be/KMYrcVtKh_Q



Greg Mims is checking their cotton stand in this field and it looks good. Thrips have been a problem in several fields this week.



Herbicide being applied to field recently planted to cotton. Growers are spending more and more money to control Palmer amaranth.



Brad Thompson with his snap beans that will be machine harvested soon. We're planning on a 5 ton per acre yield.



This tropic croton (a weed) was being controlled by lots of grasshoppers. There can sometimes be a problem with grasshoppers in young cotton stands. For more information on that and other cotton topics go to the UGA Cotton Page. Link below.

<http://commodities.caes.uga.edu/fieldcrops/cotton/>

Calcium at Peanut Planting? And Other Calcium Questions Answered

Dr. Glen Harris, UGA Extension Scientist

For years, the recommendations for providing calcium to the pegging zone were pretty clear. If you needed a pH adjustment you can apply the recommended rate of lime at planting, or if your pegging zone sample calls for gypsum, you apply 1000 lb/a at bloomtime. But along the way, things change and a number of new products have been introduced. Even the timing of gypsum applications (including wanting to apply gypsum all at planting or split applications) has come into question. A lot of these new questions are the result of the shift from small-seeded to large-seeded runners and the increasing importance of calcium nutrition. The following is an attempt to answer some of these questions as clear and concise as possible:

1) Q: Have the calcium recommendations changed since the shift from small-seeded to large-seeded runners?

A: Technically no. Research data from the last 2 years shows that both the 500 lb/a calcium in the pegging zone requirement and the 1000 lb/a gypsum application rate overall, appear to hold for large-seeded runners. However, it is clear that following this recommendation is more important for large-seeded runners, and especially for GA 06G. Also, when the pegging zone calcium is between 500 and 750 lb/a you are in a “grey area” where calcium applications may still be beneficial. Even calcium chloride or calcium thisosulfate applied through center pivots may be helpful when you are in this pegging zone calcium range (this will be addressed further in another question).

2) Q: Are foliar calcium applications recommended on peanuts?

A: No ! No ! No ! This one is abundantly clear. Foliar calcium products recommended in the 1 qt/a range that are sprayed on the leaves in total spray volumes of 10-20 gal/ acre do not provide enough calcium. Even if they did, they do not get translocated from the leaves to the developing pods.

3) Q: Isn't putting calcium chloride or calcium thisosulfate liquids through a center pivot a foliar application then? I mean the water hits the leaves right?

A: No ! No ! No ! Putting these “liquid calciums” through a center pivot is a soil applied application. The reason is that you are putting so much water out per acre that even though the

water does hit the leaves, initially, the majority of it runs off and is basically applied to the soil. Think of it this way, when you foliar feed, you apply approximately 10 gal/a final spray volume and try to keep the spray on the leaf. When you apply 1 acre-inch of water you are applying approximately 27,000 gallons !Huge difference !

4) Q: So do you recommend putting calcium chloride or calcium thiosulfate through center pivots? And does it replace using gypsum?

A: Yes and No ! Based on research data from the last 2 years conducted at the Stripling Irrigation Park near Camilla, GA, calcium chloride and calcium thiosulfate applied through the a center pivot (to supply approximately 25 lb/a of highly soluble calcium during bloom) did improve yield, calcium in the seed and germination compared to the untreated check. However, these products do not increase the soil test calcium levels after harvest near as high as gypsum, so in that regard they do not replace gypsum. These two products applied with center pivot irrigation appear to have the best fit when the pegging zone calcium levels are in that “grey area” of 500- 750 lb Ca/a. If your pegging zone calcium level is below 500 lb/a then gypsum should be applied instead.

5) Q: Which is better, lime at planting or gypsum at bloomtime?

A: Technically they should both work equally as well. However, the lime method is only supposed to be used when a pH adjustment is called for according to a soil test result. In addition, based on a field study done in Tifton in 2010, the lime method did not work near as well as gypsum in a dryland situation when there was drought stress.

6) Q: Can I apply gypsum at planting ?

A: This is not recommended at this point since there is always a chance that depending on soil type and the amount of rainfall and irrigation, even the calcium in gypsum could leach below the pegging zone.

7) Q: Should I split my gypsum applications and put some on at planting and some at early bloom?

A: This is also not recommended at this time. However, research studies are being conducted on irrigated, deep sand soils (again at the Stripling Irrigation Park) with adequate irrigation to see if there may be a benefit to this timing of application.

8) Q: How late is too late to put out gypsum ?

A: Gypsum should be applied at “early bloom” or approximately 30-45 days after planting depending on growing conditions. Once you get past 100 days after planting, the majority of pods have probably already absorbed the proper amount of calcium or not. Plus, after 100 days after planting, running over lapped vines is not desirable.

Q: What about this new product called TigerCal30 that I have seen advertised so much ?

A: This is also not recommended at this time since it has not been tested thoroughly in Georgia



Chad White with his home grown tomatoes, Home gardeners are watering like crazy too to keep their vegetables growing. There's nothing like produce from your own garden.

Mixing Order

I had a couple of conversations this week about the mixing order of pesticides in a tank mix. Dr Prostko, UGA Extension Scientist, Provided us with the following information.

The following is a thorough listing of pesticide mixing sequences provided by Dr. Gregory W. Schwing of DuPont Crop Protection: The Formulation Science mixing sequence is as follows:

1. Water soluble bags (WSB)
2. Water soluble granules (SG)
3. Water dispersible granules (WG, XP, DF)
4. Wettable powders (WP)
5. Water based suspension concentrates (aqueous flowables) (SC), Microencapsulated (ME), flowables (F)
6. Water soluble concentrates (SL)
7. Suspoemulsions (SE)
8. Oil based suspension concentrates (OD)
9. Emulsifiable concentrates (EC)
10. Surfactants, oils, adjuvants

11. Soluble fertilizers (one exception to this rule: when using AMS with glyphosate, the AMS must be added before the glyphosate. In my opinion AMS should only be used with glyphosate when hard water (high levels of Ca, K, Na, etc.) is used as the carrier)
12. Drift retardants



Giant Live Oak tree out in the middle of a peanut field seen this week is very old but in good health.

Question of the Week

Last week I asked about an aquatic weed with a bonus question about what else was in the photo. Mark Atwater answered the questions well

“The weed in question is common salvinia or water fern, an exotic invasive free floating weed. We have it here in abundance as it crowds out the native duckweed (*Lemna* spp.) . It is NOT palatable or desirable, one, to waterfowl as they will eat duckweed preferentially in mixed populations, in essence “selecting” for the salvinia. There is a giant version which I have not encountered but it is said to be much worse. BTW its on an alligator.”

See this week’s question below the photo.



What are these insects? What’s the difference between these?

Later,

Rome

Rome Ethredge

SeminoleCountyExtensionAgent