



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

## Seminole Crop News

### [Cotton Pickin'](#)

October 7, 2011

Rome Ethredge, CEC  
Seminole County Extension  
Phone: 229-524-2326  
Fax: 229-524-2856  
e-mail: [ethredge@uga.edu](mailto:ethredge@uga.edu)

**Cotton Pickin' is going on in a big way in South Georgia and conditions are good. Early estimates are for a good crop with good yields and quality. Here's a photo I took today from a field being harvested here and the yield monitor in the picker indicated that this field will average 1,400 pounds per acre or more. The round modules will weigh about 5,000 pounds of seed cotton and the lint turnout will be about 40 % so each round module will give us almost 4 bales of cotton.**



**Here's a video I took today of the John Deere On Board Cotton Module Builder Picker doing its thing on the Thompson Farm. Click on the small photo to bring up the video.**



[http://ahref=](#)

Here's another very short video of the cotton going into the picker head.



**One thing we've noticed is that cotton bolls are hanging right on the ground, in many cases right out of the picker fingers reach. This is unusual. I think part of the reason for this is our new varieties of cotton and also the fact that we didn't have as much boll rot this year to rot those bottom bolls away. Let me know what thoughts you have. This has been noticed in numerous fields this year. Here's a photo taken right after the picker came through. If anyone would like to hand pick these bottom bolls on halves I'll let you know where to go.**





Here's Stephen Houston with some dryland cotton that had a rough start but is looking pretty good now and he'll defoliate it this week.

## [Question of the Week – Peanut Rootknot Nematode](#)

October 7, 2011

**Peanut Rootknot Nematode, *Meloidogyne arenaria*, is the answer to last week's question about the bad spot in the peanut field. The root systems of the peanut plants were impaired and they had that nutrient deficient, poor growth look. I pulled up some of the plants and you can see the galling on the roots and pods in the photo below. Some folks mistake the nodulation that helps peanuts fix nitrogen for nematodes. Those "good" nodules are stuck to the sides of roots, whereas the nematode galling will be a swelling of the root or knots on pegs and pods themselves.**

**The Peanut Rootknot is a very persistent joker. Often after peanuts have been rotated out of a field for many years, even a dozen years or more, if you go back with peanuts in a field that has had a history of nematode problems, you will likely have problems again. This nematode has many host plants it can survive on and although they may start the season with low numbers they can exponentially explode in population by season's end if they have soil moisture. They are usually in semi circular areas of a field like in the photo last week.**

**Here's some UGA Publications concerning nematodes.**

**Guide for Interpreting Nematode Assay Results**

**[http://www.caes.uga.edu/publications/pubDetail.cfm?pk\\_id=6435](http://www.caes.uga.edu/publications/pubDetail.cfm?pk_id=6435)**

**[http://www.caes.uga.edu/applications/publications/files/pdf/B%20904\\_2.PDF](http://www.caes.uga.edu/applications/publications/files/pdf/B%20904_2.PDF)**

**Here's another link to some nematode info:**

**<http://plantpath.caes.uga.edu/extension/nematodes/rootknot.html>**



**This week I have a question about this yellow area in a corn field. What caused it?**

## Soybean Pests

October 7, 2011

**We are finding a good many stinkbugs in soybeans and other crops this week. In soybeans they were mainly green stink bugs. They are reproducing well, too with lots of immature stages being found. I think as other crops dry down, especially peanuts, they are on the move to whatever is green and tasty.**

**We can only stand 1 per 3 feet of row from bloom to mid pod fill or 1 per 6 feet of row if the soybeans are being grown for seed, so it doesn't take many to warrant control.**

**Here's a photo of one I took yesterday.**



## Grazing Disappearing

October 7, 2011

**A grower and said his young rye grazing was disappearing. It was there and 5 inches tall a few days ago but is now gone except for a few patches. This was where he had interseeded the rye into a bermudagrass hayfield. The caterpillars were cutting off the rye plants and eating them. They preferred the rye to the bermudagrass.**

**Fall armyworms are the culprit and they were there in large numbers and were eating well.**



**Here's the field they were in that had the disappearing rye crop. There are a few areas left there of rye like the spot where my boot is pointing.**



**You have to look closely to see the caterpillars . Here are 2 by my fingers and to my left you can see the chewed rye plant.**



**Caterpillars are also eating some pearl millet, see 2 by my finger.**



**Here's some rye growing well that was drilled into this irrigated field after peanut harvest. All small grain fields should be scouted at this time for caterpillars. For control information, contact me or your local Extension office.**

**Later,**

**Rome**