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July 28, 2010

MEMO TO: Wheeler County Soybean Producers

Soybean Yield Enhancement

A lot of our soybean fields here in Wheeler County are now blooming, or they soon will be. There are two very cost effective practices that you can apply to your fields at the early podding stage to increase your yield.

I recommend that you apply 2 to 4 oz/acre Dimilin (insecticide) plus $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ lb/acre of actual boron at the early podding (R2-R3) stage of growth. This combination can be applied at the low rate for about \$10/acre. This is less than the value of one bushel of soybeans. A properly timed Dimilin/Boron treatment has been shown to consistently add 10% to the yield on the average. It can be more under high management situations.

The Dimilin treatment can control velvetbean caterpillars ALL SEASON without disrupting the beneficial insects. Dimilin can also help suppress soybean loopers and the nymphal stage of grasshoppers. The boron helps the soybeans to produce more seed. If you are planning to use a fungicide to prevent soybean rust, it can be tank-mixed with these products.

I have summarized all of the benefits of the Dimilin/Boron treatment below:

- 1) Increase yields by an average of 10%
- 2) Control velvetbean loopers
- 3) Suppress soybean loopers
- 4) Suppress grasshopper infestation
- 5) Increase insecticide effectiveness if soybean loopers invade and need spraying later in the season
- 6) Increase the potential profitability of soybeans

You will need to act fast to get this yield enhancement if your fields are starting to bloom. Both of these products can be applied by either ground rigs or aerial application. If you have questions, feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Mike Hayes
County Extension Coordinator

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