Lakeside GRAIN & FEED LIMITED

PRECISION AGRICULTURE COMPLIANCE EXCELLENCE

THE Agromart GROUP

October Newsletter

By: Anita Speers, CCA-ON

REMINDER: Fall Applied Infinity – It's a Go!

Infinity is a product that usually gets discussed in the spring months, but is now entering more and more conversations in the fall months – especially with the amount of Canada Fleabane around. Given the number of unseeded acres and intended wheat acres to go in this fall, give your wheat crop the cleanest start it can have by applying Infinity in the fall (from first leaf to the end of tillering). One jug of Infinity will cover 20 acres of your wheat ground, but when applying it in the fall be sure to watch that daytime temperatures are above 10°C and there is no risk of frost within 24 hours. This product is not to be confused with **Infinity FX**, which does NOT have fall registration. Thinking of red clover in the spring after a fall Infinity application? There is little to no concern underseeding red clover in 2020.

Soybean Cyst Nematode

Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) is no new pest to Ontario producers; it was first identified in 1988 and has made its way across Ontario. Most recently, this pest has been found in Manitoba, but location does not deter SCN – it's a yield robber no matter where it is found. It first begins to infect soybeans in the juvenile stage, where it enters the root to feed. Eventually this juvenile becomes either male or female, with the females being the most detrimental because as the female ages, it will lay eggs. Females turn brown in colour and this signals that the female is near the end of its life, where it can lay anywhere from 200-500 eggs; this life cycle typically takes place within 25 to 30 days.

Figure 1 – SCN cysts are smooth in texture. When the females are young, they begin as a milky white colour and slowly turn brown with age.

The PI 88788 gene is the most popular SCN gene to be bred in for SCN resistance for soybeans, but seed researchers are starting to include PI 548402 ("Peking") and PI 4137654 ("Hartwig"- still in research phases) into their seed line up. Effective and multiple management techniques are the best way to tackle SCN on your farm. The use of genetic resistance is one management tool, but crop rotation (rotating out of SCN host crops), removal of SCN alternate hosts (weeds like Purple Deadnettle) and soil sampling all need to be incorporated into your SCN management plan.

Figure 2 – Soybean nodules. Without the use of a hand lens, it can be easy to mistake these for SCN cysts. Nodules have a rough, shrived appearance.

Soil sampling for SCN is not very different than taking a bulk composite sample. Collect your soil samples in a zig-zag pattern, 6-8" deep in the soil. One sample should not represent more than 20-25 acres and be sure to properly label your sample for SCN testing. Samples can be collected at any time of the year, but they are most representative when taken from August through to the fall months. Taking samples in August allows you to visually identify SCN hotspots in your field by looking at leaf symptoms (chlorotic leaf tissue, often seen in conjunction with Sudden Death Syndrome). Do not collect your sample from the heart this area because the damage has already taken place. Instead, collect from the edge of your hotspot – this will help you see where SCN populations are moving to. Interpreting your SCN test results may also help to aid in the management decision of whether to apply a nematicide seed treatment to help with SCN suppression. The rule of thumb is action should be taken if 500 eggs/100 g of soil in sandy fields and 1000 eggs/100 g of soil in clay fields. While these numbers may seem low, remember how quickly the lifecycle of SCN takes place; a field that may seem low risk can turn into a high risk field in a matter of months. Have any questions about getting some sampling done? Call you Lakeside representative to discuss in further detail.