HENSALL DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE

food products division

WEBSITE *www.hdc.on.ca*

NEWSLETTER

Our Vision
Building a consumer focused, farmer-owned agri-business with innovative people committed to excellence in a global marketplace.

Our Mission
To be a progressive, diversified agri-co-operative providing the benefits of ownership.

Our Motto
Proud to be farmer-owned.

08/09

SCOUT THOSE BUGS!

It's always important to scout for potential problems. Insects can damage quality and reduce yield. In soybeans, the most critical insect to watch for is the **SOYBEAN APHID** which originated in Asia and has generated a lot of management questions.

The soybean aphid is a small, yellow insect with distinctive black cornicles on its back. Most are found on the young leaves, including the underside. The aphid sucks nutrients from the plant, producing a sweet, sticky substance on the surface. Aphid feeding can also spread damaging viruses. Research has shown that when threshold levels are over 250 aphids/plant on an average of 30 plants/field, spraying becomes economical. The most critical stage of growth for soybeans is from flowering (R1) to pod fill (R6). Soybeans will soon be at this critical stage.

You can find the latest updates at the Ontario Soybean Grower's website *www.soybean.on.ca/aphids.php.*

There are three insects to monitor in dry edible beans during the course of the summer:

POTATO LEAFHOPPER: Over the next two weeks, we will see an increase in these pesky little insects as they travel on warm jet streams from the south. Typical symptoms of leafhopper damage are a yellowish-browning of the leaf margin, curling and/or wilting of the plant. The browning results when the leafhopper produces a protein substance during feeding, which blocks the plant's vascular system. Leafhoppers feed on the underside of the leaves and are easily identified by their unique ability to move in all directions, without changing the direction of their body.

LEAFHOPPER THRESHOLD
Unifoliate .....0.25 leafhopper/leaf
2nd trifoliate.....0.5 leafhopper/trifoliate
4th trifoliate .....1.0 leafhopper/trifoliate
First bloom .....2.0 leafhoppers/trifoliate

Much of the dry bean seed this year was treated with Cruiser Maxx, which has shown to be very effective at controlling potato leafhopper for the first few weeks after planting.

MEXICAN BEAN BEETLE: The adults resemble ladybug beetles, are usually copper in colour and have 16 spots on their back. The larvae are yellow, oval in shape and have prominent black spines on their back. Mexican bean beetles will feed on the leaf membrane and heavy feeding will result in leaf skeletonization. Damage usually occurs in small patches.

TARNISHED PLANT BUG: Damage from this insect comes during the flowering to pod fill period. These insects are oval, 1/2 inch long, usually light to dark brown with a distinctive V-shaped marking on the centre of their back. During flowering and early pod fill, the plants are soft and easily pierced by the tarnished beetle. Punctured beans are left with a mark which results in these beans becoming pick. If you find one or more tarnished plant bugs per plant at flowering, the threshold has been reached.

Tank-mixing Headline and Lance fungicides for dry beans

Many growers rely on Lance as a preventive fungicide for white mold in their dry beans. The first application of this product is made at the early bloom stage (30 - 50% flower or first sight of "pin" beans). Similarly, many growers apply Headline fungicide for anthracnose control and overall plant health benefits, such as improved seed quality in dry beans. Research has shown that the optimal timing for Headline application in dry beans is also at the pin bean stage. Due to the identical timing of Lance and Headline, many growers want to tank-mix these products and apply at the same time. This is NOT a registered tank-mix at this time, however, BASF is working toward a registration.

If growers wish to tank-mix these products, a few precautions must be followed. The Lance must be thoroughly dissolved and mixed in the tank before the Headline is added. This tank-mixture must be sprayed as soon as possible after mixing and must NOT be left in the tank overnight as the Lance will precipitate out of solution. If you are planning to apply a tank-mix of Lance and Headline, be certain the weather will cooperate and you can complete the spraying after mixing. Headline and Lance are locally systemic fungicides that will be fully absorbed by the plant and not affected by a rain within two hours after application.

SPRAYING WHEAT STUBBLE

by Greg Fritz, CCA-ON

Spraying stubble fields in the fall is one of the easiest ways to stay on top of perennial and annual weeds.

Timing

With all the moisture that we continue to get this year, the weeds in the stubble fields are growing quickly. Be sure to complete your spraying before the weeds set seed.

For broadleaf perennials such as bindweed, best results are achieved when there is eight inches of new growth and plant is in flower. The best time for thistles is when there are several inches of new growth. The easiest way to control quackgrass is to spray it in the fall. Fall spraying keeps annual weeds from going to seed.

Chemicals

In most cases any glyphosate product such as Roundup Weathermax at 0.67 to 1.33 L/ac does the best job when spraying stubble. Adding a phenoxy herbicide (2,4-D) helps with some tough-to-get perennials or if you have a field underseeded with red clover that is going to be no-tilled or minimum tilled next year. HDC's custom application equipment is always ready to assist you.

Want to apply fertilizer at the same time as your glyphosate spray? HDC has 4 Wet/Dry custom application units that would save you a pass across the field.

Give your Field Marketer a call to customize a program that will fit your operation.

VISIT OUR PLOTS

Once again this year, a lot of hard work went into the various plots and they look awesome! Please take some time to visit them. If you would like a guided tour, give your local Field Marketer a call and they will assist you. Plot locations: Hensall, Seaforth and Londesboro.

- Dekalb - seed corn hybrids, Roundup Ready soybeans
- Advantage Seeds - Roundup Ready soybeans, food-grade soybeans
- NK Brand Seeds - corn hybrids, food-grade soybeans
- Food-grade soybean plot
- Winter wheat plot (harvested)
- Coloured and white bean variety demonstration plot

HENSALL PLOT DAY AUGUST 18

- Plot tours 9:30 am to noon
- Lunch will be provided
- Meeting adjourned at 2:00
- Please call

Rob Warwick . . . . . 519-262-3002, ext 319
Paul Cornwell . . . . . 519-262-3002, ext 317
Tony Decorte . . . . . 519-262-3002, ext 318

or call your local FM by August 14th to sign up.

Test to Invest

Soil tests are a valuable agronomic resource if they are fully used and properly understood. Plant nutrition and plant-to-soil interactions are complex mechanisms with a number of environmental and external conditions affecting the process. There are 17 elements involved – three are supplied naturally over which we have little control and 14 are supplied by soil and/or by fertilizer applications.

Therefore, it is important when interpreting soil analysis and designing a fertility program to keep balanced nutrition and proper placement of these nutrients in mind.

One of the best times to take soil samples is following wheat harvest. If taking traditional bucket/bulk samples keep the sample sizes down to 25 acre sections. HDC will arrange GIS sampling if you need a more technical analysis.

Soil sampling has never been more important. A few years of high fertilizer costs have lead to a general decrease in usage. Contact your local HDC Field Marketer today.

HDC'S Risk Management Plan for Pre-harvest Dry Bean Treatments

Due to potential for Maximum Residue Level (MRL) risk associated with pre-harvest dry bean treatments, HDC has set up the following risk management policy:

- ***Avoid Use of Pre-harvest Treatments on Dry Beans***
  We recommend that wherever possible, growers be encouraged **NOT** to use pre-harvest treatments on dry beans. In making this recommendation, HDC recognizes that the individual grower situation will need to be fully reviewed when considering this option.
- ***Otebo Beans***
  Under no circumstances should glyphosate products be used on Otebo beans. Growers may use Ignite (glufosinate) as per label instructions.
  Note: All HDC contract fields must be signed off by an HDC Field Marketer or an appointed HDC representative prior to growers applying their pre-harvest treatment of Ignite (glufosinate).
- ***Azuki Beans/Navy Beans/Other Coloured Beans***
  Growers may use glyphosate and AIM (carfentrazone) as per label 7 days prior to harvest.
  Note: All HDC contract fields must be signed off by an HDC Field Marketer or an appointed HDC representative prior to growers applying their pre-harvest treatments of glyphosate and AIM (carfentrazone).
- ***Education & Information Sessions***
  HDC's Field Marketers will be working with producer organizations, government and industry to develop education/information seminars on pre-harvest treatments to be held in August. This will help ensure all stakeholders have a clear understanding of their responsibilities.

HDC FOOD-GRADE PROGRAMS

by Derwyn Hodgins, HDC Field Marketing Manager

Every year seems to bring us new challenges and new opportunities and 2009 is no exception. Food producers tend to make planting decisions based on the following criteria:

1) Previous experience (good or bad)
2) Contracts to stimulate production
3) Prices quoted for competitive crops
4) Lifestyles
5) Seed availability

In 2008, we had strong dry bean contracts to stimulate production, above average yields, and a tightening of credit globally (several US banks went under in September of 2008 and we experienced tremendous swings in currency worldwide). During this time, dry bean end-users were caught in a difficult situation. They owned huge amounts of expensive inventory from pre-contracted commitments and most were being offered cheap beans from all growing regions. Bean dealers found themselves in a situation where they couldn't post grower prices until the end of February. In 1991, approximately 19 years ago, we had a similar experience. Because of the over-supply situation, bean dealers were unable to come out early with 2009 dry bean contracts.

At the same time, the food-grade soybean market was almost the opposite. US soybean growers reduced their food-grade soybean programs in lieu of genetically modified seed. The soybean market was strong and Roundup Ready soybeans were considered easy to produce. This created a huge demand for high quality Canadian IP soybeans. HDC increased premiums and contracted a large food-grade soybean program for 2009.

Note: We already know that the US companies aren't going to allow Canadian growers to own this market without a fight. US companies are now reproducing non-GMO seed to re-enter this market in 2010.

CHANGE IS CONSTANT

During January, growers had the opportunity to book corn at close to $5.00 per bushel and soybeans approx. $11.50 per bushel. Today, we find corn values approx. $3.70 and soybeans at approx. $9.02 bushel (July 27/09).

We've seen the Canadian dollar as low as $0.78 while it now hovers over $0.92. Our livestock industry is currently struggling with high feed costs and low market prices.

What can we do to protect ourselves? Several wise food producers have told me that we must continue to diversify. Dry beans and food-grade soybeans provide that opportunity. Markets will continue to go up, down and sideways, but we cannot afford to lose any of our markets. We must feed these markets through the good times and the less than good times or we risk losing them to other countries. We have all made investments in facilities, equipment and people. With this in mind, on behalf of all HDC's Staff and Directors, I thank each of you for supporting HDC's food-grade programs in 2009 and wish you a safe and profitable harvest.

Hensall District Co-operative is pleased to announce that **RON HARRIS** has joined our Grain Marketing team. Ron brings 37 years of marketing experience to HDC and he's looking forward to helping you meet your needs.

For all your grain and oilseed requirements, please call us at 1-800-265-5190 or 519-262-3002.

Ron - ext 328	Jerry - ext 311	Ben - ext 312
Frank - ext 237	Julie - ext 225	

ATTENTION HDC CONTRACT GROWERS

If you have not already done so, please forward your QAP - Field Identification Report. Fax to 519-262-3412, send in the mail or drop off at your nearest HDC location.

Note: Product Application Reports will be due within 10 days of harvest. Both the Product Application Report and the Field Identification Report are required prior to settlements.