

Hillsboro Scouting Report 8/17/10

Sugarbeets:

- At this point with the disease pressure that we have had, it is important to stay on schedule with cercospora spraying. Last week we had rather high infection values. This week, with lower temperatures, we are seeing reduced infection values for the disease. However, the forecast for the weekend is to go back up into the higher 80's again. This will increase the infection opportunity again, so it is a good recommendation to stay on schedule.
- Make sure to keep observing the Pre-Harvest Interval for all fungicides and glyphosate products. This includes the pre-harvest that is coming up. Glyphosate is a 30 day PHI, Tin and Headline are 7 day PHI.

Corn:

- There is corn starting to dent! That means approximately 20-25 days until black layer! To learn more, attend the plot tour event on Friday at noon in Hillsboro.

Soybean Aphids and Spider Mites:

The recent rainfall we had really had an impact on the few number of aphids we did have. Counts early this week have been around 20-30. Also the beans scouted yesterday were in the R6 stage, full pods on any one of the top four nodes. The rainfall and cool weather we had the last few days also slowed down some of the mites that were seen in some fields. Most of the soybeans are close to the stage where it is not economical to treat for aphids or spider mites. Continue to scout your soybeans until the beans have reached the R6 stage.

Halstad Scouting Report 8/17/10

- **Crops**
 - The corn is looking excellent and has really grown with the hot weather we have experienced. The corn has also started to dent.
 - Soybeans are looking excellent with the hot weather and timely moisture we have experienced. We are seeing both aphids and spider mites, but only at threshold levels select areas.
 - The sugar beets are looking as good as ever and we may have a record crop. Depending on when your station opens for pre-harvest and how early you sprayed your first application of fungicide, you may want to think about a second application prior to opening. Otherwise we are looking at a late August or early September application of Headline.

- **Weeds**
 - If you have any weed escapes, those areas should be monitored closely in the future for glyphosate resistance.

- **Insects**
 - As stated earlier, there are aphids at threshold levels in select areas, but in most areas the populations are holding steady or declining. Remember that the threshold level is 250 aphids per plant and once the plants reach the R6 stage, an insecticide application is not warranted. The R6 stage is described as a full pod with full seed on one of the four uppermost nodes of the plant on the main stem.
 - We have found spider mites in certain soybean fields, but also not any at threshold levels. The threshold for spider mites is small colonies in the upper canopy, heavy infestation in the middle canopy, and lower leaf yellowing and some lower leaf drop on 80% of the plants. If you have questions about spider mites, aphids, or anything else feel free to contact your local HEC agronomist.

- **Soil Sampling**
 - If you have not already signed up to have your fields sampled, there are some very good early discounts. We are offering a 5% early sign-up by August 31st plus a 10% discount for fields that are sampled before they are worked.