

## **Halstad Scouting Report 7/22/10**

- **Crops**

- Some of the wheat has already been sprayed with pre-harvest glyphosate and will be ready in under a week. If you are unsure of timing for a pre-harvest application, we would be happy to assist you.
- The corn is looking excellent, other than areas where there were drown outs, and most is fully tasseled.
- Soybeans have begun to pod and have really taken off with the warm weather we have had with adequate moisture. We are also currently scouting for aphids.
- The sugar beets are looking as good as ever. Some of the beets have already been sprayed with fungicide and a third shot of glyphosate. Depending on when your pre-haul starts, you should be aware of the 30 day pre-harvest interval for glyphosate and pre-harvest intervals from 7 to 21 days on the different fungicides.

- **Weeds**

- Most soybeans have been sprayed a second time and should be closely monitored because the weeds are rapidly growing just like the crop and will need to be resprayed at some point. The soybeans have also canopied over in some places, which will make it difficult to get a good kill on weeds.
- If you have any weed escapes, those areas should be monitored closely in the future for glyphosate resistance.

- **Insects**

- We have found some soybean aphids in fields around the area, but they are still not there in sufficient numbers to warrant spraying them. The numbers we are finding are from 5 to 10 per plant, which is about the same as we first found two weeks ago, and the threshold

level is 250 per plant. If you have any questions about aphids or anything else agronomy related, contact your local HEC agronomist.

## **Hillsboro Scouting Report 7/22/10**

### **Soybeans**

The stage of the soybeans around the area are from R2-R3. R3 is when you can start to see a pod coming on the fourth node down from the top of the plant. The aphid populations remain to be very low. There are some fields around the area with higher populations, but overall it has been very hard to find over 5-10 aphids on some plants. Aphids cannot cause injury to soybeans once they reach the R6 stage. R6 is when the pods are completely full of beans. Continue to scout for aphids in your fields. When looking for aphids, look around the new growth of the plant and along the stem. Below is an update from Ian MacRae, an entomologist from the University of Minnesota.

Hi Folks

Soybean aphid populations in NW Minnesota and eastern ND don't seem to be developing at a fast rate for now. Many fields that are typically hotspots still have low numbers and these don't seem to be increasing much. There have been a very few fields, however, that have reached or exceeded threshold (250/plant when >80% of plants have aphids), so it's best to keep scouting and keeping track of what aphid populations are doing in your fields.

But why oh why are our aphids so recalcitrant about increasing their numbers?? There are a number of possible reasons:.

- We haven't really had great soybean aphid reproduction weather yet. Our *average daily* temperatures haven't been in the high 70's – low 80's. When our daily temperatures start averaging 75-85F, we'll start to see more aphid reproduction.
- The rain events over the past few weeks are suppressing populations. Rain events, especially heavy rains with wind (when *don't* get both!?) will knock aphid populations back, we're not certain how much (we are working on getting that data) but we do know it happens. So - clouds, silver lining, you get the picture....
- We haven't yet had the 'Running of the Aphids' – okay, maybe not as dangerous

as the Running of the Bulls (although I'll bet you could get some nasty submicroscopic dermal abrasion from their antennae, and those cornicles are mean....). We usually get an annual airlift of aphids from the south. Bruce Potter in Lamberton says it coincides most often with the Sturgis run, maybe all those high powered motorcycles sweep up aphids from fields and deposit them into the wind. Bruce is fairly accurate about the timing though, that flight generally starts around the 3rd week of July and can continue into the 1st week of August, and it makes a significant contribution to our populations up here.

So, although aphid numbers are low in NW MN and eastern ND, this situation can change given the right climatic conditions.

Don't spray below threshold. Keep Scouting!

Cheers,  
Ian

For every bean full of weevils God supplies a blind grocer. - Arabic Proverb

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