



GATEWAY NEWS

Japanese Beetle Management Decisions

Japanese beetles have been emerging across much of the GROWMARK trade area. Based on earlier reports of grub numbers, heavy beetle populations are expected in many areas. We are starting to receive scattered reports of large numbers of beetles moving into corn and soybeans.

In corn, treatment of Japanese beetles may be justified when there are 3 or more beetles per ear, silks are being clipped to 1/2 inch or less, and pollination is less than 50 percent complete. Japanese beetles tend to “congregate” in heavy concentrations and have a very patchy occurrence in fields, often concentrating near field edges. This should

be taken into account when determining the need for insecticide application.

In soybeans, treatment of Japanese beetles may be justified when there is 30 percent defoliation prior to bloom, or 20 percent defoliation between bloom and pod fill. As with corn, Japanese beetles have a tendency to have clumped distribution in fields. This should be taken into account when making the treatment decision.

(excerpt from Production Solutions Newsletter)
TIME TO MONITOR CORN LEAF DISEASES

Recent weather conditions in many areas will encourage corn leaf infection by key diseases. In

fact, gray leaf spot lesions have been identified in isolated corn fields. Four pathogens commonly show up in corn: Common rust, eyespot, northern corn leaf blight, and gray leaf spot. In general, these diseases are expected to increase following pollination. However, regional temperature and moisture limitations either promote or restrict these pathogens. Following are summaries of favored temperature ranges for specific corn leaf diseases.

Temperature Ranges for Common Corn Foliar Pathogens

Common Rust – Favored by temperatures between 60 and 74°F and high relative humidity.

Eyespot – Favored by moderate temperatures, high humidity, high rainfall.

Northern Corn Leaf Blight – Favored by temperatures between 65 and 78°F with heavy dew.

Gray Leaf Spot – Infection is favored by temperatures between 70 and 90°F, with 11 to 13 hours of leaf wetness, and very high humidity levels.

As this information indicates, gray leaf spot is likely to be the predominant summer corn leaf disease over much of our area. Common rust, eyespot, and northern corn leaf blight tend to be favored by cooler conditions, so they are expected to be more common late in the growing season, and during unseasonably cool weather.

Be advised that northern corn leaf blight levels can get quite high on certain susceptible hybrids, so don't dismiss the importance of this disease. Common rust

and eyespot typically do not result in significant yield loss, although the cool, wet July last year resulted in unusually high levels of eyespot. Common rust rarely causes significant impact to field corn.

For gray leaf spot, fungicide treatment may be advised for susceptible hybrids when at least 50 percent of the corn plants have gray leaf spot lesions at least 3/8 inch in length, by tassel emergence, on the second or third leaf below the ear leaf. (Another “rule of thumb” threshold is to spray fungicides on susceptible hybrids when the lesions on the leaf, two below the ear leaf, add up to the size of a quarter, or when all the lesions on all the leaves add up to the size of a dollar bill. Syngenta uses a 2-2-1 guideline: 2 lesions, 2 leaves below the ear leaf, on 1 out of every 2 plants.

(excerpt from Production Solutions Newsletter)
More glyphosate resistant weeds

Each year we have been observing more and more fields with what appears to be glyphosate resistant weeds in our trade area. Because of the weather patterns of the last few years, more fields have been planted to continuous soybeans which has increased the resistance pressure. We have seen an increasing number of fields this year that have been sprayed with proper rates of glyphosate in a timely manner but with little to no effect on weeds such as marehail and waterhemp. One field that I am aware of had an herbicide applied last fall which kept

the field relatively clean this spring until around the first of May. But when the marehail did emerge, a full rate of glyphosate had little effect of many of the plants. Granted, the water logged soils have hampered the glyphosate's ability to work but it appears the field has a high population of resistant weeds.

What is the solution? It appears that in those fields where resistance is suspected, there is a need for a fall application of a herbicide followed by an early spring application and possibly a third residual applied after the beans have emerged to control the waterhemp and marehail.

Seed Wheat

As you may remember, quality weed wheat was scarce last fall. GROWMARK indicates that there will be a good supply of FS Wheat for this fall's planting. FS will be releasing several new varieties this fall. We were able to plant most of them in our wheat plots and the harvest data shows were they are yielding equal to if not better than the varieties we have had available in the past. As you can guess, the supply of the new varieties are limited the first year of release and we will sell out of these quickly. Gateway will continue to have a good supply few of the varieties that have been available the last couple of years in order to provide quality seed to our patrons.

Again this year, we will be treating all FS Wheat with Dividend and offering Cruiser to those who want an insecticide applied to their wheat.



Gateway FS Employee of the Month

Cathy has been with Gateway since August 2001. That was when Gateway purchased the Tilden Elevator from her family. She has worked at the Elevator since she was 13 years of age.

Cathy and her husband reside in Tilden. They are big baseball and football fans. Each year they purchase season tickets to both sporting events.

Cathy also enjoys camping, antiquing (?) and she has become working on her family's genealogy.

Cathy hopes to retire in 2012. When I asked her what her plans were after that, she said she was going home, put her feet up and go “Whew, I'm done.”

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GRAIN NOTES

By Dwight Asselmeier

In an unusual move, USDA is currently re-surveying planted corn acres for a report to be released in August. The last report, which showed larger corn acres than most market participants were expecting, still contained some acres that were intended but as yet unplanted due to weather delays. This has the potential to continue to roil the market through fall harvest as the magnitude and damage of the planting season problems and recent flooding are quantified.

If the last report was close and IF the crop develops well despite the late planting and IF analysts have closely guessed flooded acreage, corn will struggle to maintain current price levels. Those are all pretty important IFs to a market that's only marginally well supplied anyway. This can and will prove frustrating as you try to identify market direction or trends. Seldom has a crop developed with a wider range of potential final outcomes, either in crop size or price level.

On another subject, we've had the opportunity to learn a little more about river flooding this spring and summer. While the lower Mississippi reached historic levels earlier this spring, driven mostly by the Ohio River, and the upper Missouri has recently been near record levels in some areas, we have so far only seen moderate flood levels in our area. You wouldn't necessarily expect to see historic flooding both upstream and downstream in the same year without seeing higher levels than we've seen. The location of the rains that led to the historic river levels was important to the river levels that reached us. Taking into account only the height of the flood crest, we've frequently seen worse than the moderate flood levels we saw this year. As it has stayed at those moderate

flood levels so long while we've been receiving huge rains that are unable to drain to the river, a lower crest is little comfort to producers who've lost so many acres to trapped drainage water. A slow fall this late in the year will mean many of those acres will not be planted to anything this year.

It's with a little mixed emotion that I tell you this will be my last article as I have decided to retire. Gateway FS is a solid company you can be proud of and the Gateway FS team is a wonderful group to be part of. While I know I won't miss some things, like trying to stay on top of the risks wild market gyrations put on the grain trade, I will miss daily contact



with co-workers with whom I've spent years. I will also miss doing business with so many people I have gotten to know well through the years. We trade hundreds of millions of dollars worth of grain based mostly on everybody's word over the phone being good. For all the bad you hear about the world any more, it's good to know that's still out there. Thank You.

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THE PAINT CORNER

By Brian "Boomer" Garleb



There are more than 16,000 ladder accidents reported each year, and more than 300 of those result in death. Now is a good time to ask yourself two important questions: "When was the last time I read the manufacturer's warnings on my ladders?" and "Am I sure to take all the necessary safety precautions when using a ladder?"

This month, I have 10 safety tips for anyone using a ladder.

Inspect your ladder before each use. Examine it for missing parts, make sure shoes are secure, and check each step for damage and that screws and bolts are tight. If you're using a step ladder, make sure the spreader braces are not bent or damaged. Make sure nothing sticky or slick is on the steps. If you're using an extension ladder, make sure both rung locks are in order and test the rope and pulley system.

Clear clutter from the area surrounding the ladder, and make sure there are no slick areas where the ladder will be standing.

Remember that environmental conditions such as wind, snow, and ice can make working on a ladder dangerous.

Do not use a metal ladder when working around electricity.

Do not put your ladder on boxes, barrels, scaffolds, or other unstable bases.

When working on a ladder in front of a door, be sure to lock the door to ensure no one opens the door and hits your ladder.

Keep in mind the weight rating on the ladder. 1AA: Special Duty - maximum of 375 pounds. 1A: Extra Heavy Duty - maximum of 300 pounds. Type 1: Heavy Duty - maximum of 250 pounds. Type 2: Medium Duty - maximum of 225 pounds. Type 3: Light Duty - maximum of 200 pounds. To figure out if your ladder has the right rating, add your weight plus the weight of your clothing and

personal protective equipment plus the weight of any tools or supplies.

An extension ladder should extend three feet beyond the surface where you are working. Don't step any higher than the third step from the top of the ladder. Add your height plus reach plus highest safe standing level to determine the ladder height needed.

Keep three points of contact at all times when climbing the ladder, and do not over-reach. Over-reaching is the top cause of ladder accidents.

Take care of your ladders. Lubricate any moving parts regularly, keep the ladder clean, and protect ladders

from heat, weather, and corrosive materials.

I hope these 10 steps will be helpful as you work with ladders on your next paint job. If you have any questions, please call me at 618-972-9516 or email bgarleb@gatewayfs.com



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