

Soybean Commission Summary

Investigating the relationship among Bean Pod Mottle Virus, bean leaf beetles and green stem syndrome (evaluating and early season insecticide program for control of green stem syndrome).

Sikora, E. J., and J. F. Murphy

A 20 acre strip test was conducted at Dee River Ranch in Pickens County to evaluate Cruiser 5FS seed treatment alone, and with a pre-bloom application of Karate to determine if the products alone or in combination would reduce bean leaf beetles, bean pod mottle virus (BPMV) and green stem syndrome. It was previously documented that bean leaf beetles can cause yield and seed quality losses to soybean by damaging leaves and pods during feeding and by transmitting BPMV which can result in green stem syndrome. The trial was monitored every two weeks for bean leaf beetles and for other insect pests. A total of 200 plants were sampled and tested at early and mid season for incidence of BPMV. Unfortunately, bean leaf beetles populations were extremely low (less than 1 beetle/25 sweeps through mid season) and only 1 of 200 plants tested positive for BPMV. We also did not observe signs of green stem syndrome during harvest and there were no significant differences in yield between the two treatments.