

## Asian Soybean Rust Symptoms

The most common symptom of soybean rust is a leaf lesion. On the upper leaf surface, initial symptoms may be small, yellow flecks or specks in the leaf tissue. These lesions darken and may range from dark brown or reddish brown to tan or gray-green in color. The lesions tend to be angular to somewhat circular in shape and may be concentrated near leaf veins. Initially, lesions are small, barely larger than a pin point. Mature lesions may be somewhat larger, and lesions may merge or run together, killing larger areas of leaf tissue. Symptoms may be more severe on the lower leaf surface.

Pustules form on the lower leaf surface. These may appear to be small raised blisters or calloused bumps. As the pustules mature, they begin to produce large numbers of light-colored, powdery spores which emerge through a hole in the cone-shaped pustule. Masses of spores may mound up out of the opening in the pustule. The pustules and spores are difficult to see without magnification. A high powered hands lens will aid greatly in the identification of this disease in the field.

Rust pustules are most common on the underside of leaves but may also develop on petioles, pods and stems. Leaves may turn yellow and drop prematurely. Losses are due to a reduction in photosynthetic area of the plants resulting in a reduction in pod and seed numbers and in seed weight.

Soybean rust is usually found first on the lower leaves of plants, especially at or near flowering. As the soybean plant matures, lesions may be found in the middle and upper canopy. When conditions are favorable for disease development, yellowing of the foliage may be evident and defoliation and premature death of plants may occur.

To view images of soybean rust, link to

the USDA web site [www.usda.gov/soybeanrust](http://www.usda.gov/soybeanrust) or  
the Plant Management Network online soybean rust center  
<http://www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/infocenter>

Other Soybean rust images:

[Image One](#)



[Image Two](#)



[Image Three](#)

