

TIMELY INFORMATION

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New Fungicides Labeled for Peanuts

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Bumper, Orius, and Chlorothalonil 720F Fungicides Released

Makheshim Agan [or MANA] formulates and distributes a number of off-patent or generic fungicides and other pesticides worldwide. Until this year, this corporation has not been active in the U.S. peanut production market. Now, MANA has introduced a line of fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides for the peanut market. The fungicides are Bumper® 41EC, Orius™ 3.6F, and Chlorothalonil 720F.

The active ingredient in Bumper is propiconazole, which is the same a.i. in Tilt 3.6E and PropiMax EC. Since the concentration of propiconazole in all three of these formulations is the same, the application rates will be the same. There may, however, be differences in the surfactant systems and other inert materials between the three formulations. For early leaf spot control, the application rate for Bumper is 2.5 to 4.0 fl oz per acre and 4.0 fl oz per acre for late leaf spot.

In most cases, 2.0 fl oz per acre of Bumper will be tank mixed with 1 pt per acre of Bravo Weather Stik, Echo 720, or Chlorothalonil 720. A tank-mix combination of 2 fl oz per acre of Bumper plus 0.9 lb per acre of Bravo Ultrex is also an option for early season leaf spot control. Growers interested in applying a propiconazole + chlorothalonil combination also have the option of using the Echo PropiMax co-pack or the new Tilt/Bravo formulation. The Bumper + chlorothalonil tank mix combination can be used in conjunction with AU-Pnuts or other leaf spot forecasting system.

The label for Chlorothalonil 720F is the same as the label for other flowable

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chlorothalonil formulations. As with all chlorothalonil formulations, a.i. particle size, the surfactant package, and formulation stability has a tremendous impact on product effectiveness. Since this product has not been evaluated in Alabama fungicide trials, no local information is available on the stability of this formulation in a spray tank, compatibility with other pesticides, or its activity against early and late leaf spot, as well as peanut rust. That being said, MANA has a reputation for producing well formulated products.

The last new material from MANA is Orius 3.6F. MANA is formulating technical tebuconazole that they obtain from Bayer CropScience. Since the concentration of the formulated product is the same as Folicur 3.6F, the application rates of the two products (7.2 fl oz per acre) are the same. For control of white mold, as well as leaf spot diseases and rust, a block of four applications of Orius 3.6F should be made beginning about 60 days after plant or in early to mid-July. When applied alone, add about 1 pint of a non-ionic surfactant such as Induce per 100 gallons of spray mixture. Too much surfactant will interfere with the movement of the fungicide from the leaves to the soil surface. No surfactant is needed when Orius 3.6F is tank mixed with a chlorothalonil fungicide.

As is the case with the other MANA fungicides, Orius 3.6F has not been screened for leaf spot, rust, or white mold activity in Alabama field trials. Right now, none of the above products are scheduled to be screened in any of the fungicide screening studies scheduled for the Wiregrass or Gulf Coast Research and Extension Centers. Producers may want to test one or more of these fungicides on a relatively small acreage before committing to using them on their whole peanut crop. I expect that these products will be aggressively marketed and they will be very price competitive with other peanut fungicides.

Sparta Fungicide

Cheminova, another formulator of generic pesticides, is in the process of developing their own tebuconazole fungicide. Sparta contains the same concentration of tebuconazole as Folicur 3.6F. The activity of Sparta for the control of leaf spot diseases and white mold will be compared against that of Folicur 3.6F in trials at the Wiregrass or Gulf Coast Research and Extension Centers. Sparta will be available in 2006.

Headline 2ee Label for CBR Suppression

Headline recently received a 2ee label addition for the suppression of *Cylindrocladium* black root rot [CBR] on peanut. As you are aware, it's extremely difficult to predict where CBR will hit and easily mis-diagnose this disease as white mold. Under the best circumstances, Headline probably will reduce CBR damage levels by 20 to 30%. Folicur 3.6F and Abound 2SC

should give similar suppression of this disease. In some cases, these fungicides will not greatly reduce the number of symptomatic plants but will help hold the pods on the damaged crowns and limbs.

The application rate for CBR suppression with Headline is 12 to 15 fl oz per acre. Mid-July and mid-August applications dates would target CBR suppression, as well as white mold and *Rhizoctonia* limb rot. These high application rates for Headline should also give excellent control of early and late leaf spot. An application of Headline in mid-June to early July at the lower 6 to 9 fl oz rate will do very little to suppress CBR.

TiltBravo SE, which contains 0.3 lb a.i. propiconazole and 4.0 lb a.i. chlorothalonil per gallon of product, replaces the Tilt/Bravo co-pack in the Syngenta Crop Protection lineup. Now, both fungicides are mixed together in the same jug. Application rate for *TiltBravo* SE for the control of early and late leaf spot, as well as web blotch is 1.5 pints per acre. For early leaf spot control begin applications of *TiltBravo* SE approximately 30 to no later than 40 days after planting. Repeat applications every 10 to 14 days. During periods of frequent rainfall, shorten the application interval by two to four days.

CBR spreads to Baldwin Co.

Late last summer, I found CBR in a field of Georgia Green peanuts just above Summerdale in south Baldwin Co. This discovery is not the biggest surprise. There's plenty of CBR in peanuts grown just across the Florida state line. This disease is often introduced on contaminated peanut seed, as well as by moving soil on tillage equipment from an infested to a clean field. From a distance, symptoms for CBR can easily be confused with those associated with late season TSWV damage or white mold. Failure to follow recommended rotation schemes, as well as extended periods of heavy rain will greatly increase the severity of CBR in peanut. CBR seems, however, to have a mind of its own. Just when you think that conditions are right for disease development, CBR will fail to appear. The reverse is also true.

Right now, cultivar selection is the only good defense against CBR. For my money, AP-3 may be more susceptible to CBR than any other peanut line. In 2004, this cultivar was destroyed in a Headland trial, while most of the other peanut lines were left alone. Of course, Georgia Green is sensitive to CBR. The most peanut resistant lines are GA02C and possibly Carver.

An experimental Bayer CropScience fungicide has shown excellent activity against CBR in Georgia field trials. However, it probably will not be commercially available for at least 2 years.

Peanut Plant Pathology Research Report Delayed

Hopefully, Peanut Disease Control Field Trials 2004 [Entomology and Plant

Path. Dept. Series 8] should be on the web sometime in the next couple of weeks.

Word about the Weather

For the past two weeks, almost daily afternoon thundershowers along with tropical storm Arlene have made conditions very favorable for early leaf spot development in peanut. Remind producers to make their first fungicide application within 30 days of planting, particularly in those fields that have been cropped in the last year or two to peanuts. Growers putting peanuts on fresh land will get a little more of a grace period from early leaf spot. With the introduction of several new generic fungicides, there should be pressure to hold down the cost of a peanut disease control program. So, there's no excuse for growers to skimp on their early season leaf spot control program.