

SOUTH CAROLINA RUST NEWS:

Rust was found this last week for the first time in Colleton, Horry and Orangeburg Counties.

Rust was found on 2/50 leaves collected at a site in Colleton County by Marion Barnes. The first leaf had a cluster of 10 to 15 pustules and the second leaf had 2 small very young pustules.

Rust was found on 2/50 leaves collected at a site in Horry County by Bob Bett. Both leaves had clusters of 5 to 10 young pustules.

Rust was found on 10/50 leaves collected by Charles Davis from a site in Orangeburg County. The ten leaves each had 10 pustules with 25 young pustules each.

We now have rust in Bamberg, Barnwell, Berkeley, Calhoun, Colleton, Dorchester, Hampton, Horry and Orangeburg Counties in South Carolina. This late-season spread of rust is not a threat to our soybean crop. All of these fields are late R-5 or later in maturity. We may have some premature defoliation in a few fields that were not treated with a fungicide, but it is too late for this to hurt all but the very latest maturing soybeans now.

Based on Mark's forecast below we will have weather that is very favorable for rust to develop on our late maturing soybean crop for the next week. If these soybeans are still in R-5 you may want to spray with a Folicur-type product (<\$3.00/acre for the chemical) just for the rust. If they have entered R-6 it is too late to spray a fungicide. However, at that growth stage we should not see much yield loss either.

WEATHER FORECAST FROM MARK MALSICK:

Busy wet weather week ahead. Heavy rain Monday north of a line from Aiken to Horry counties. 1-2 inches easily with 3-4+ inches over the Upstate Counties with just trace accumulation over the Low Country. Showers and patchy morning fog linger into early Tuesday morning then clearing skies and temperatures in the mid-70s Tuesday afternoon with light north winds. Cloudy Wednesday with rain developing Wednesday afternoon and continuing Wednesday night. Overnight rains should total near an inch State-wide. Rain showers and cloudy skies persist Thursday and Friday with another decent pulse of overnight rainfall Thursday night. Thursday night's rain should total again near an inch and be more focused over the Low Country and the Coast. Quick clearing late Friday night with the arrival of a cool dry Canadian air mass that will drive this weekend's low temperatures into the low 40s. Clear, sunny, and cool for the start of next week. High temperatures will only be in the low to mid-60s. The Tropics remain extra quiet this week.

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