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## SOYBEAN APHID: FIRST NORTH DAKOTA SIGHTING

Soybean aphids have been found in Cass and Barnes Counties this past week. Numbers are low at present - <10 aphids per plant and <15% of the plants infested on early V-2 to V-3 stage beans. The economic threshold is 250 aphids per plant on 80% of the plants in field from late vegetative to R5 (beginning seed). In North Dakota, we typically don't treat for high populations of soybean aphids until late July into August. Nevertheless, it's a good time to get started monitoring for soybean aphids. Populations can build quickly with the moderate temperatures, which are favorable for aphid development.

## CONTINUE TO SCOUT FOR CEREAL APHIDS

Scout fields for cereal aphids through early flowering. If weather continues dry with moderate temperatures (mid-70s F to 80s F), aphid populations can explode quickly and reach economic threshold. To protect small grains from yield loss due to aphid feeding, use either economic threshold:

- 85% stems with at least one aphid present, prior to complete heading.
- 12-15 aphids per stem prior to complete heading. After heading, the yield loss due to aphid feeding is minimal.



## PROTEIN ENHANCEMENT FOR SPRING WHEAT/DURUM

It is possible that protein premiums might be higher than normal, and certainly the dockage for lower protein (less than 14%) wheat will be higher given the anticipated larger southern Great Plains crop with lower protein. There is already grower interest in enhancing protein with supplemental N.



The most proven method of enhancing protein would be the application of 10 gallon per acre 28% liquid N mixed with 10 gallon per acre of water after pollination at the watery-ripe wheat berry stage of growth. Apply the solution broadcast in the cool of the day; not at noon when temperature is above 80 degrees in sunny skies. At best there will be some leaf burn; however, by taking the above precautions the burning will be superficial and N will enter the plant and move to the developing wheat kernel. Our data comes from several years of work at Carrington, Minot and Langdon. This method consistently resulted in 1/2 % protein increase with no loss in yield.

Avoid using low rates of slow-release N sources to accomplish this goal. Our work with several of these products shows that the company recommended rates (1-3 gallon per acre) are not enough to record any measurable increase in protein in wheat before or after flowering. Although the products have practical advantages of low burn and the ability to be applied with fungicide, they agronomically have little value for the purpose of increasing protein at low rates. If a grower wanted to use about 30 lb N/acre of one of these products post-anthesis, I have no doubt they would also be as effective as 28%.

## **Sugarbeet Research Tour July 24 9:00 am at Prosper**

Sugarbeet Tour Located at the NDSU Agronomy Research land between Prosper and Amenia. From the intersection of paved roads west of Prosper and north of Mapleton, go three miles north to County Rd 32, then west about three miles. OR...go 4.5 miles east of Amenia on County Road 32. Plots on south side of the road.

Tillage practices, crop rotation, weed control, disease management & insect management.  
Lunch sponsored by BASF.



Cass County AgAlert is now available on the web at the following site address:

<http://www.ext.nodak.edu/county/cass/agriculture>

## **Super Tin Pre-Harvest Interval Reduced to 7 Days**

The states of Minnesota and North Dakota have issued Section 24(c) Special Local Needs (SLN) registrations to United Phosphorus, Inc., shortening the pre-harvest interval (PHI) for two popular fungicides used to control Cercospora leaf spot on sugarbeets. This joins the other SLN-registered products containing the same active ingredient (triphenyltin hydroxide) for use on sugarbeets in the two states with a PHI of 7 days and include Super Tin 4L Fungicide, DuPont Super Tin 4L Fungicide and DuPont Super Tin 80WP Fungicide, all made by DuPont Crop Protection, and Agri Tin and Agri Tin Flowable, both manufactured by NuFarm Americas. There are now seven active SLN registrations for TPTH products in the two states that allow for the shorter PHI on sugarbeet.

The SLN registrations shorten the PHI from 21 to 7 days. The pre-harvest interval is the time that must elapse between the last application of a pesticide and the harvest of the treated crop.

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