

5-21-2007

## Iowa officials find no additional evidence of Asian soybean rust

Brian Gene Meyer

*Iowa State University*, [bmeyer@iastate.edu](mailto:bmeyer@iastate.edu)

Dustin Vande Hoeft

*Iowa Department of Agriculture*, [dustin.vandehoeft@iowaagriculture.com](mailto:dustin.vandehoeft@iowaagriculture.com)

Follow this and additional works at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/cropnews>

 Part of the [Agricultural Science Commons](#), [Agriculture Commons](#), and the [Plant Pathology Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Meyer, Brian Gene and Vande Hoeft, Dustin, "Iowa officials find no additional evidence of Asian soybean rust" (2007). *Integrated Crop Management News*. 1067.

<http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/cropnews/1067>

**The Iowa State University Digital Repository provides access to Integrated Crop Management News for historical purposes only. Users are hereby notified that the content may be inaccurate, out of date, incomplete and/or may not meet the needs and requirements of the user. Users should make their own assessment of the information and whether it is suitable for their intended purpose. For current information on integrated crop management from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, please visit <https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/>.**

---

# Iowa officials find no additional evidence of Asian soybean rust

## **Abstract**

How and why a single leaf infected with Asian soybean rust was found in Iowa in March are questions that continue to be addressed by federal investigators. Officials with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) and Iowa State University (ISU) have found no further evidence of Asian soybean rust in the field where the leaf was reported to have come or in neighboring fields.

## **Disciplines**

Agricultural Science | Agriculture | Plant Pathology

# INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT

Search

Get the latest research-based information on crops. [Sign up to be notified when new content is available!](#)

ICM > 2007 > IC-498(11) -- May 21, 2007

## Current Newsletter

You are viewing **archives** for the newsletter from 1993-2007. For current news, see [Integrated Crop Management News](#).

## Archives 1993-2007



Announcements



Crop Production



Insects and Mites



Pesticide Education



Plant Diseases



Soils



Weed Management

[Image Gallery](#)

## Printable Version

Printable version of this page

## Related Articles

Fungicides for soybean: Considerations for 2008  
**December 10, 2007**

Soybean rust: A year in review  
**December 10, 2007**

Soybean rust found in an Iowa field  
**October 1, 2007**

Summer scouting in soybean: Top dieback

## Iowa officials find no additional evidence of Asian soybean rust

*by Brian Meyer, College of Agriculture Communications Service, and Dustin Vande Hoef, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship*

How and why a single leaf infected with Asian soybean rust was found in Iowa in March are questions that continue to be addressed by federal investigators. Officials with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) and Iowa State University (ISU) have found no further evidence of Asian soybean rust in the field where the leaf was reported to have come or in neighboring fields.



*Asian soybean rust. (Daren Mueller)*

"We did verify that one leaf submitted in a plant sample was infected with Asian soybean rust, but how it got into Iowa still needs to be determined," said Bill Northey, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture. "After careful examination of the materials collected to date, we believe no Asian soybean rust infection occurred during the 2006 growing season in Iowa." After analyzing additional plant materials and finding no evidence of rust, IDALS and Iowa State University officials determined that it warranted further investigation by the USDA's Office of Inspector General. "We take the discovery of any new plant pathogen very seriously, especially one that would be the first recorded occurrence in Iowa," said Northey.

and other diseases  
**August 6, 2007**

Soybean rust update  
and outlook  
**July 23, 2007**

Soybean rust update  
and outlook - July 2,  
2007  
**July 2, 2007**

Another fungicide  
approved for soybean  
rust in Iowa  
**June 25, 2007**

Iowa State plant  
pathologists detect crop  
diseases from satellites  
**June 25, 2007**

Soybean rust update  
and outlook, June 2007  
**June 11, 2007**

Monitoring soybean rust  
**June 11, 2007**

On March 8, a sample was submitted to ISU's Plant Disease Clinic. The sample was made up of soybean seeds and plant debris--pieces of pods, stems, and a leaf. The sample was reported to have been taken from a bin of soybeans harvested in Mahaska County in 2006. ISU's testing revealed infection by Asian soybean rust. On March 12, the U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed that the single leaf in the sample was infected with the disease.

On March 13, personnel from IDALS and Iowa State University collected additional samples of seed and plant materials from bins at the location where the sample was allegedly collected. They analyzed the samples and found no symptoms or signs of Asian soybean rust. IDALS and Iowa State University personnel extensively collected remnants of leaves from the field where the submitted sample reportedly was harvested, as well as from adjacent fields. Although many leaves had symptoms of a common soybean foliar disease called frog-eye leaf spot, the officials found none had symptoms or signs of Asian soybean rust. IDALS contacted the USDA's Office of Inspector General, which now is leading the investigation into the origin of the infected leaf submitted to ISU.

In March, when the infected leaf was discovered, the Iowa Soybean Rust Team--which includes representatives of IDALS, ISU, the Iowa Soybean Association, and the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service--pointed out that it did not pose a risk for the 2007 growing season. The fungus and spores that cause the disease cannot survive an Iowa winter, plus they require green leaf tissue to sustain themselves.

As in previous years, producers need to continue to be vigilant and monitor conditions that favor rust. They should consult with Iowa State University Extension specialists on identification and management plans and work with the Iowa Soybean Rust Team's First Detectors to positively identify any suspected soybean rust in their fields. First Detectors are more than 600 agribusiness professionals around Iowa who were recruited and trained by the Iowa Soybean Rust Team. They can examine leaf samples and decide whether they warrant further analysis by Iowa State University Extension personnel or faculty scientists to detect possible infection.

Growers are encouraged to consult with Iowa Soybean Rust Team First Detectors if they suspect plants might have soybean rust. There is no charge. Names and contact information for First Detectors are available on the Iowa Soybean Rust Team's [Asian Soybean Rust Web site](#), and at county Iowa State University Extension offices.

Asian soybean rust was first reported in the continental United States in 2004. So far, the disease has mostly affected Southern states, although the disease has been found as far north as Illinois and Indiana.

In order to infect Midwestern soybeans, Iowa State University scientists [X. B. Yang] say viable spores must blow in from the Gulf Coast states (Florida to Texas) and arrive when there are cool, moist conditions. Iowa State University has planted 20 sentinel soybean plots around Iowa, which is part of a national sentinel system stretching from Florida and Texas up through the Midwest. The plots are monitored throughout the season and producers will be informed of any threat.

*Brian Meyer is director of the College of Agriculture Communications Service at Iowa State University. Dustin Vande Hoef is communications director for the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.*

This article originally appeared on pages 155-156 of the IC-498(11) -- May 21, 2007 issue.

Updated 05/22/2007 - 4:42pm

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
University Extension

This archive is maintained by [John VanDyk](#).  
For current news see [Integrated Crop Management News](#).

[RSS](#)