Questions on white mold control

X. B. Yang
Iowa State University, xbyang@iastate.edu

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Questions on white mold control

Abstract
This winter two questions on soybean white mold have been frequently asked by growers and agronomists in agribusiness: (1) Can white mold fungus infect soybean seed and spread with the seed? and (2) What are the latest findings on the use of chemicals, especially Cobra, to control white mold by foliar spray? Plant pathologists in the north central region have been working on the answers to these questions for the past two years. Although final answers are yet to come, significant progress has been made. In this article I will address the two questions by using the latest research results.

Keywords
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New information on soybean response to white mold

In collaboration with Bruce Voss, Department of Agronomy, Iowa State University, and Kevin Muhlenbruch, Northern Iowa Community College, plant pathologists at ISU evaluated approximately 750 soybean entries in the 1997 Iowa Crop Performance Test-Soybeans (ICPTS) for their response to white mold. The tests were conducted in northeastern Iowa. The data have been analyzed and compiled into a publication called *White Mold Tolerance in Iowa Soybean Varieties* that should be very helpful to growers in determining variety selection if white mold has been a problem in their fields. The publication also provides data from the last two years of white mold tolerance tests, including information on disease rating, maturity, and yield. Instructions on how to use this information are included.

Copies of the publication are available at county extension offices [1] and from the Plant Pathology department [2] at ISU. The Iowa Soybean Association also is going to distribute the publication to Iowa growers.

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