



Bertie County Ag News

NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

September 2021

Billy Barrow, County Extension Director

Contact Us at 252-794-5317



Pod Maturity Clinic Dates

Once we get a general idea of our maturity date it's best to fine tune the field selection as much as possible. This is best done by removing the outer layer of the hull (known as the mesocarp). We use a normal power washer equipped with a turbo nozzle. Our 2021 Pod Blasting schedule is below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Time</u>
Sept 8	Powell and Stokes	Windsor	8:00 a.m.
Sept 10	Colerain Peanut	Colerain	8:30 a.m.
Sept 20	Powell and Stokes	Windsor	8:00 a.m.
Sept 24	Nutrien Ag Solutions	Trap	8:30 a.m.

Late Season Peanut Management

As we move into the last days of the season, remember to carry your disease protection all the way through to the end. For most of the season we have been on a two week spray schedule. Considers these factors:

*Resistance management. Try to end the season with an application of Bravo. Other options may include Lucento or Priaxor if they have not been used in prior treatments and there is a history of sclerotinia in these fields. Both give good leaf spot control and carry some systemic activity.

*Avoid the use of Miravis as your last spray. This is a good material and we should avoid putting it in a situation where it is likely that leafspot will develop resistance to it. Its best use appears to be as the second spray in our programs.

*If 20% of your leaf canopy have visible lesions, it's likely that 60% of your leaf canopy is already infected. Our fungicide materials do not have appreciable curative action to handle this much inoculation so protect them until the end.

Lorsban Use Cancelled

EPA has issued a final ruling cancelling the registration of Lorsban (chemical name Chlorpyrifos) on food crops. This is the only insecticide that effectively controls southern corn rootworm in peanuts. Generally, when we lose a pesticide there is a grace period extended to use the stocks in the pipeline and on the farm. As of this time there will be 6 months from the time the EPA ruling is printed in the federal register to use the product. Obviously, that will not work for the 2022 peanut crop. The advice from Dr. David Jordan NCSU Peanut Extension Specialist is to return any extra Lorsban to your dealer to avoid any economic loss or having it on the farm where it could be a hazard. Do not keep this on the farm for use next year since any detectable amount in your crop could result in refusal by the sheller to purchase your crop.

Peanut Maturity

Several factors affect the optimum maturity date including adequate heat (a combination of day and night temperatures), ample moisture, planting and emergence date as well as overall plant health. Although we are getting ample heat now, we are trailing the heat accumulation of prior years (remember all those cooler, cloudy days in June).

Heat Accumulation (Growing Degree Days GDD56) at Lewiston on August 25 for last 6 years:

2021	2179
2020	2215
2019	2520
2018	2473
2017	2268
2016	2322

Our general target for maturity is between 2520 and 2700 GDD (usually on the high side) from the date of emergence. While this is only one general tool, it does help us estimate potential dig dates and plan for late season fungicide applications. With this general information and estimates of heat accumulation for September and October take a look at the chart below and see where your crop may fall. Another general measurement is days after planting or DAP. For most Virginia types this falls around 140 days. The last column gives this date from date of emergence.

Estimated Date to 2600 GDD (2021)

Emerge Date	GDD as of 8.25	Sept 1	Sept 5	Sept 10	Sept 15	Sept 20	Sept 25	Sept 30	Oct 5	Date of 140 DAP
4.25	2254	2429	2529	2629	2729	2804	2879	2954	3029	9.12
5.1	2179	2354	2454	2554	2654	2729	2804	2879	2954	9.17
5.5	2164	2339	2439	2539	2639	2714	2789	2864	2939	9.22
5.10	2089	2264	2364	2464	2564	2639	2714	2789	2864	9.27
5.15	2074	2249	2349	2449	2549	2624	2699	2774	2849	10.2
5.20	1974	2149	2249	2349	2449	2524	2599	2674	2749	10.9
5.25	1874	2049	2149	2249	2349	2424	2499	2574	2649	10.16
6.1	1774	1949	2049	2149	2249	2324	2399	2474	2549	10.23

GDD Growing Degree Days with a base of 56 degrees F

Is Wheat a Good Option for 2022

With the strength in grain prices, wheat may be a good option. Begin with our budget tool to look at profitability. Enter the web site below, scroll down and click on the Crop Comparison tab. You can also check out the commodity budgets. Most will be based on 2021 prices so you may want to add 3-5% to the total cost for the rise in prices. It won't be exact but will give you a pretty good comparison.

<https://cals.ncsu.edu/are-extension/crops-marketing-and-logistics/grain-marketing/>

While you are in the comparison tool you can change the expected yield, prices and even adjust the basis for the commodity. Finally, there is a spot to enter land rent. You can zero this out and figure it at the end or consider it based on the individual farm. If you want some assistance, please give me a call. I will be glad to meet with you.

Wheat Variety Selection

Variety selection is important in any crop and access to current non-biased test results is important. NCSU Official Variety Testing has been around a number of years and many of you may be familiar with the "green performance handbook". This listed the results from all the OVT tests around the state. The program has undergone several changes. One of which includes dropping the green book. Data now is available on the OVT web site. Simply go to this web site <https://ncovt.medius.re/> and click on the crop you are interested in, in this case wheat. On the next screen click on OVT Data, this will bring up the yield data for 2021 and the averages for the last 3 years. There is a lot more data in the tool but this will give you yield data quickly. If you need assistance give our office a call. Here is a snap shot of the top 10 varieties ranked according to their 3 year averages:

Variety	2021 Coastal Plain		Tidewater	2021 Avg Yields			2019-2021 Avg Yields			
	Lenoir	Robeson	Washington	Coastal Plain	Tidewater	Statewide	Coastal Plain	Piedmont	Tidewater	Statewide
USG 3118	80.6	72.9	78.1	76.8	78.1	77.8	81.2	95.9	78.1	88.3
AgriMAXX 492	59.1	69.4	78	64.3	78	75.3	71.5	101.7	78	85.7
Hilliard	60.2	73.8	77.3	67	77.3	72.4	74.1	95.5	77.3	85.1
SH 7200	73.9	74.5	75.1	74.2	75.1	76.6	75.3	94.4	75.1	84.8
Dynagrow 9811	71.4	60.9	74.6	66.2	74.6	73.5	70.8	97.3	74.6	84.4
SW 65SR	69.5	72.7	75.4	71.1	75.4	73.6	71.9	98.5	75.4	84.1
AgriMAXX 502	70.1	76.3	69.1	73.2	69.1	76.6	73.4	97.7	69.1	83.7
AgriMAXX 473	66.1	69.8	71.9	67.9	71.9	73.2	74.2	92.9	71.9	83.3
Shirley	63.1	77.7	71.5	70.4	71.5	76.1	73.3	93.6	71.5	83.3
#BERKELEY	64.8	63.2	72.6	64	72.6	70.2	72.8	93.6	72.6	83.2

SOURCE: N.C. State University Official Variety Test

Our Corn Crop is about Ready to Harvest

With strong prices, don't neglect it in the field. Consider the risks and historical losses on your farm. Dr. Ron Heiniger urges growers to look at potential losses (ear drop or stalk lodging) from a severe storm or pro-longed period of wet weather. What has historically happened on your farm? Is your operation highly leveraged? With a price of \$4.00 per bushel, corn growers who suffer a 12.5% yield reduction due to harvest loss can afford to pay .50 per bushel in drying costs to avoid these losses. As prices increase to \$6.00 per bushel growers only need an 8% loss to afford the .50 per bushel drying cost. Likewise, with higher prices the higher harvest moisture growers can justify to begin harvest. Deduction at the elevator is .05 per one half point of moisture over 15.5%. At this rate, with a target of .50 per bushel drying cost, growers can begin harvest at 20.5% and offset the same harvest risk. In any case, growers should begin harvest between 17 and 18% moisture to avoid shrinkage losses due to over drying or harvesting corn below 15.5%.

Corn Yield Contest

Based on the weather we have had I expect there will be some really good yields in our County (Bertie). If you would like to make an entry in the corn contest, give us a call and we will tell you what's involved and set a date to harvest.

Upcoming Event! Thursday, September 9th NC Peanut Field Day
Peanut Belt Research Station, Lewiston, NC

Late Season Insects in Soybeans

Late Season Insects in Soybeans: There are a of late season soybeans in our County. As we move into early September, many of these field are still susceptible to late season insects particularly stink bugs. Following is an article written by Dr. Dominic Reisig NC State Extension Entomologist explaining the factors involved.

<http://go.ncsu.edu/readext?817497>

Although stink bugs were light across the state (with a few exceptions) in corn and cotton, they will stack up in soybeans as the season progresses. Since we've had a few mild winters in a row, southern green stink bug is more prominent and is moving into soybeans. This time of the year, corn is being harvested and cotton is maturing. That leaves soybeans as green islands in the landscape. Stink bugs are seed feeders and are very destructive to yield at R4 and R5, destroying pods and aborting or shriveling seed. They can still cause yield loss at R6 by sucking away nutrients the plant needs to fill out seed weight and can cause stay-green. Use our thresholds to know when you should treat stink bugs. You can double those thresholds once you hit R6.5 (where the seed is starting to separate away from the pod wall) and don't treat past R7. Be sure to scout throughout the field, since stink bugs congregate toward field edges. Southern green stink bug is susceptible to many different pyrethroids, so product choice is not as critical as with brown stink bug. Thresholds do not need to be adjusted for yield potential- and individual pest will eat the same amount in 10 bushel soybeans and 80 bushel soybeans. Defoliators like bean leaf beetle and soybean looper need to be scouted as well. Don't neglect looking for velvetbean caterpillar, especially near coastal counties. Our threshold is 15% defoliation throughout the entire canopy during the reproductive stages. This threshold is very conservative, since soybeans can tolerate much more defoliation without yield loss, especially as they move into R6 and R7. Defoliation isn't an issue past R7. Nebraska has a great infographic on how to estimate defoliation. The recommended insecticide for soybean looper is Intrepid Edge. If you have bean leaf beetle in high numbers, you'll need to add a pyrethroid. However, don't throw this in the tank unless you have to. You can run the risk of flaring things like loopers by unnecessarily knocking out beneficial insects (check out these results from 2018).



William Barrow, Jr.
County Extension Director

North Carolina Cooperative Extension
P.O. Box 280, 104 Lancaster Avenue
Windsor, NC 27983

Email – wbarrow@ncsu.edu
Office - (252) 794-5317
Cell – 252) 724-1676



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 **Bertie County Cooperative Extension**

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