

SDSRPC FY15 Final Report

Personnel:

Connie L. Strunk, SDSU Extension Plant Pathology Field Specialist
Sioux Falls Regional Extension Center
2001 E. 8th St
Sioux Falls, SD 57103
605-782-3290
Connie.strunk@sdstate.edu

Anthony Bly, SDSU Extension Soils Field Specialist
Sioux Falls Regional Extension Center
2001 E. 8th St
Sioux Falls, SD 57103
605-782-3290
Anthony.bly@sdstate.edu

Research Summary:

This past year was spent promoting the project, Soybean Investigations: Research On Your Farm and securing grower participation. The intentions of this farmer-led on-farm strip trial research program is to jumpstart and empower South Dakota Soybean Growers with knowledge gained from research that has been conducted locally in the state. Producers are dealing with an overwhelming assortment of chemical products that they are being pressured to buy and use. They need information on the most cost-effective way to control diseases, insects, weeds, and fertility issues. The goal of our producer-driven and initiated research projects is to have the producers learn how to conduct on-farm research. The impact we are aiming for is that the producers will continue conducting their own on-farm research.

Introduction:

Producers are dealing with an overwhelming assortment of chemical products that they are being pressured to buy and use. They need information on the most cost-effective way to control diseases, insects, weeds, and fertility issues. Producers are also being faced with the threat of pesticide resistance and the potential loss of these crop protection products to manage the many different insects, diseases, and weeds that threaten their soybean production. Producers need to learn how to properly identify soybean diseases and what disease control is available. The overall goal of our producer-driven and initiated research projects is to have the producers learn how to conduct on-farm research. This granting period was focused on promotion of the project and securing producers to participate in the program.

Description of Accomplishments:

1,000 promotional booklets were designed for the Soybean Investigations: Research On Your Farm project. Over 800 were distributed to South Dakota soybean producers. Four promotional banner bugs were also created.

Soybean Investigations: Research On Your Farm was promoted to over 2,200 producers and crop consultants at various meetings which included: Soybean Outlook, Farm Shows (Vermillion, Sioux Falls, & Watertown), Row Crop Clinics (Aberdeen, Watertown, Brookings, & Mitchell), Private Applicator Trainings (22 in major soybean growing counties statewide), Commercial Applicator Training (Sioux Falls (2), Yankton, Mitchell (2), Brookings), Precision Ag Conference, Soy100, SERF Annual Meeting, Independent Crop Consultants Update, and Grower Days. Soybean Investigations: Research On Your Farm was featured in radio interviews (WNAX, KWAT, KELO AM, SD Public Broadcasting, Red River Farm Network, and iGrow Radio) and news columns.

Currently, we have 17 research on your farm projects in place. Despite extensive project promotion grant collaborators had to solicit farmer involvement.

Projections:

The promotional phase of Soybean Investigations: Research On Your Farm project was completed during this fiscal year.. For the next funding year, research on your farm sites were identified and treatment inputs were developed. Extension staff including Ruth Beck, Anthony Bly, David Karki, and Connie Strunk have cooperated with growers to establish the following research projects:

1. Late Season Nitrogen – Madison, SD
2. B-sure amino acid late season foliar application – Valley Springs, SD
3. Early Season ESN in Furrow – Brandon, SD
4. Soybean Variety Comparison – Armour, SD
5. Nutri-pack Foliar Application – Garretson, SD
6. Soybean Inoculum Comparison – Pierre, SD
7. Late Season Nitrogen – Pierre, SD
8. With and Without Manure – Lyons, SD
9. Micro-nutrient Study – Crooks, SD
10. Micro-nutrient Study – Sinai, SD
11. Micro-nutrient Study – Garretson, SD #1
12. Micro-nutrient Study – Garretson, SD # 2
13. Micro-nutrient Study – South Shore, SD
14. Late Season Fungicide – Crooks, SD
15. Late Season Fungicide – Sinai, SD
16. Late Season Fungicide – Garretson, SD # 1
17. Late Season Fungicide – Garretson, SD # 2
18. Late Season Fungicide – South Shore, SD

Growing season plans are to monitor the plots, take notes, and obtain soil and tissue samples as appropriate.

Publications/Data:

We created the Soybean Investigations: Research On Your Farm promotional booklet and banner bugs. Additional radio interviews and news articles were conducted and written to support and promote the Soybean Investigations: Research On Your Farm project.