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Pest & Crop Newsletter

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PURDUE UNIVERSITY | Extension - Entomology

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In This Issue

Mid-Aeason Insect Pest Survey For 2025?

(Christian Krupke)

As mentioned in this space last week, below is a survey link to gain some insight into mid-season insect pests. This is meant to capture a snapshot of what's happening in your fields right now, while the visual estimates and field visits are fresh in your mind.

Please click below, survey is anonymous and should take less than 2 minutes to fill out. I will report the results here in the coming weeks. Thank you!

https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6DR4DPkROWPgmnI

Red Crown Rot Of Soybean: Time To Keep An Eye Out And What To Do If You Suspect It Is In Your Field

(Darcy Telenko) & *(John Bonkowski)*

Red crown rot of soybean continues to be a concern this season in Indiana. We have our first reports for 2025 in fields that have had a previous history. The map (figure 1) shows counties in Indiana where the disease has been identified in previous years. This disease is caused by the soilborne fungus, *Calonectria ilicicola*. At this point in the field season and for the next month, we are on the hunt to determine how widespread the issue may be here in Indiana. Therefore, we need your help in documenting red crown rot and collecting samples.

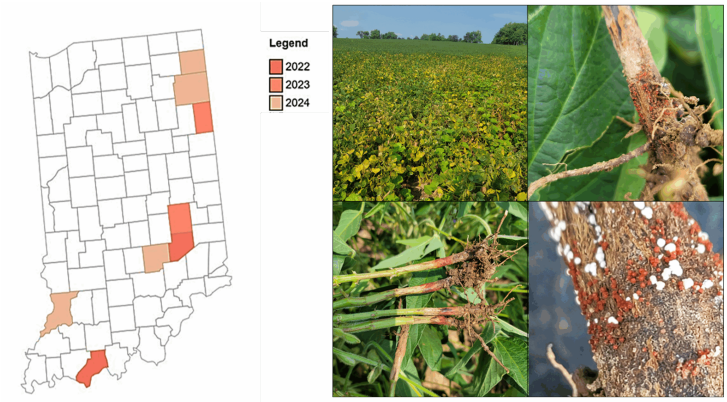

Figure 1. Map of confirmed counties with red crown rot in Indiana. Discolored patch of soybean plants infected by red crow rot, red discoloration at the soil-line and red, spherical perithecia forming on outer surface of soybean crown. (*Photo Credit: Darcy Telenko*)

What to look for: The disease may appear in patches in a field similar to our other soilborne diseases such as sudden death syndrome (SDS) and brown stem rot. Early foliar symptoms may also mimic these diseases, which include chlorosis (yellowing) and necrosis of leaf tissue between leaf veins (Figure 2A). Therefore, it is important to take a few plant samples and check out the stem to verify the issue. Red crown rot will cause a red discoloration of the lower stem near the soil-line, and red, spherical perithecia may be visible (Figure 1 and 2). If you cut open the stem the central pith may have a gray discoloration, roots are rotted and the plants are easily pulled up from the soil.

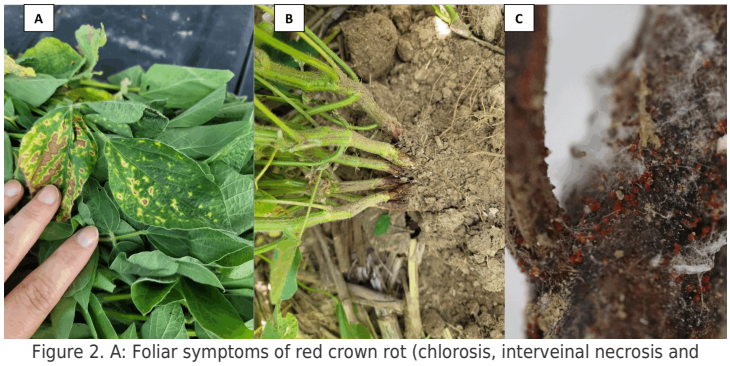

Figure 2. A: Foliar symptoms of red crown rot (chlorosis, interveinal necrosis and chlorosis), B. red discoloration at the crown of the soybean plants in the field; C: red, spherical perithecia forming on crown and stem. (*Photo Credits: Darcy Telenko and John Bonkowski*)

We are working with colleagues across the mid-west to track this disease. Samples of soybean infected with red crown rot will greatly assist us in determining the distribution of red crown rot and guide future research.

We greatly appreciate the samples that we have received this season and want to encourage you to get out and look at these suspect areas in your fields.

If you have (or think you have) red crown rot in your field, please collect several plants showing the symptoms and send them to the Purdue Plant Pest Diagnostic Laboratory (PPDL).

Please ship early in the week. If you are sending samples from multiple locations, please label them and provide the date collected, variety, field zip code or county, and previous crop.

Mail to: Plant and Pest Diagnostic Laboratory
LSPS-Room 116, Purdue University
915 W. State Street
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2054

Checkoff funding from Indiana Soybean Alliance is supporting sample processing, therefore there will be no charge for soybean samples submitted to the clinic.

Questions please contact Darcy Telenko (dtelenko@purdue.edu/764-496-5168) or PPDL (ppdl-samples@purdue.edu/765-494-7071)

Purdue Hemp Field Day 2025

(Marguerite Bolt, mbolt@purdue.edu)

REGISTER HERE

LEARN MORE HERE

Field Day Schedule

- Wednesday, July 30, 2025
- Agronomy Center for Research and Education
- 4750 US Highway 52 West, West Lafayette, IN 47906
- Sign in from 8:30 – 9:00 am EST in the Beck Center
- Demonstrations from 9:00 am – 1:45 pm EST
- Lunch from 11:45 am – 12:30 pm EST

Field Day Topics

- Grain and fiber production research
- Crop diversification
- Post-harvest handling and processing
- Application of hemp in food science
- Hemp for animal agriculture

Please join us for the 2025 Hemp Field Day!

This half-day event will provide insight into the latest in grain and fiber hemp production, crop diversification, post-harvest handling, and product development. Researchers, farmers, and industry professionals will share their projects and real-world experiences. Speakers will present the latest research, and attendees will get the chance to speak with current hemp growers and walk through field plots. This event is a great opportunity to connect with others interested in the future of this versatile crop. Whether you are a grower, researcher, or simply curious about hemp, The Purdue Hemp Field Day has something for you. The cost is $25 and boxed lunches will be provided. Registration ends on July 23rd.

Observers Needed To Report Daily Precipitation Amounts

(Beth Hall)

Precipitation forecasts for Indiana over the next 7 days (through late Thursday, July 24) are calling for close to 3 inches (Figure 1). The precipitation is likely to be very scattered where some areas could see a lot, and some may see very little. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, there is a growing area of *Abnormally Dry (D0)* conditions in northern Indiana and persistent areas of *Moderate Drought (D1)* in northwestern Indiana (Figure 2). Most of this rain, therefore, will be welcomed and could help determine if and how much the U.S. Drought Monitor should change next week.

Figure 1. Total precipitation amounts forecasted for July 18-25, 2025.

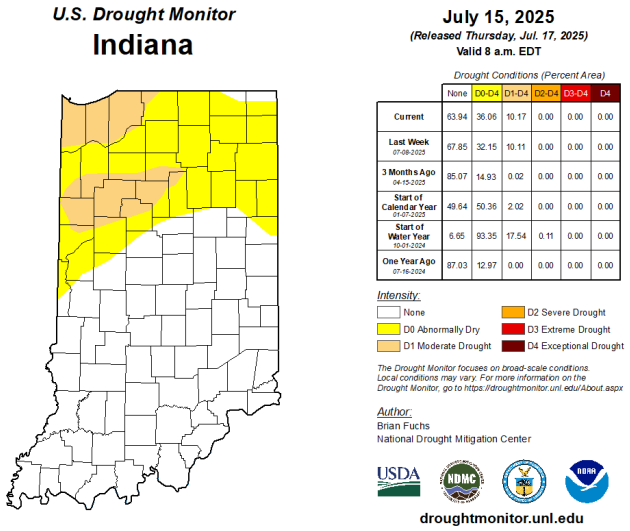

Figure 2. U.S. Drought Monitor status for conditions as of Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

Since scattered precipitation can be unpredictable, forecasters, climatologists, and modelers depend upon observational data from a wide variety of resources. There are federally supported observational networks that collect daily precipitation amounts as well as automated weather stations most often found near airports that report hourly rainfall. While these networks provide critical information, that still leaves a lot of spatial gaps across our state where we are missing observational data. Have you ever seen it rain a few blocks away, but your location didn't receive a drop? This discrepancy is rarely captured by forecast models.

If you are a weather enthusiast, love contributing to the greater good, and/or enjoy data, I encourage you to consider becoming a CoCoRaHS volunteer observer. CoCoRaHS – which stands for Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow program – is a citizen scientist effort that invites anyone and everyone to join a network of over 27,000 active observers across the United States and beyond. By agreeing to use a manual, standard 4" rain gauge and submitting observations on a near-daily basis, you'll be sharing your local observations with the National Weather Service, forecasters, climate scientists, emergency managers, and many others! Please consider joining CoCoRaHS and help us spread the word to recruit more observers.

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