

July 2nd – 6th Scouting Report

Introduction

For those who don't know who I am, my name is Zach Cowsert. For the summer of 2018, I was given the opportunity for an internship at the Donovan Farmers Cooperative. Over these past couple weeks, I have been around the area scouting many of our grower's fields. To make your lives a lot easier, I will be splitting up this scouting report into 4 different sections. The sections will be as follows: North, South, East, and West of Donovan. For example, if your fields are Northeast of Donovan, look in the North and the East sections of this report, or if you are wanting to see all the sections, go ahead and read as much as the report as you please. This scouting report will include disease identifications, common insects throughout the area, growth stages throughout the area, and recommendations to you if you have any diseases or insects in your fields. Thank you again for taking the time to read this scouting report.

Northern Section

The Northern Section looks good. The corn growth ranges anywhere from V14 – R1. Due to the weather that we have been having, the corn throughout the area is susceptible to disease. I have seen some grey leaf spot in this section. I have also noticed that almost all of the corn in the northern section could use a shot of rain. Beans on the other hand look fantastic. There isn't any disease as of now. The main issue that I have noticed has been the Japanese Beetle pressure throughout the area. Most of the bean leaves that I've seen has not been completely defoliated, but we are nearing the end of the Japanese Beetle cycle. As far as recommendations go, I would recommend considering an insecticide/fungicide application. Fungicide/insecticide applications may not be your main concern with the trade market prices the way that we are, but if there was any time that fungicide/insecticide application was crucial, it's now.



Japanese Beetle damage in the Eastern Section

Southern Section

The Southern section has once again had an interesting week to say the least. The corn growth in this section is right around VT – R2. Who would've thought we would have silks out by the 4th of July. The main concern with corn throughout the area is the disease pressure that is out there. I have seen some small spots of Grey Leaf Spot showing up, but it isn't a severe case. Beans on the other hand have shocked me. At the coop, we have been running foliar feed testing in most of the sections, but I have seen the biggest response in the southern section. We have had many spots in fields that had a later emergence, some nutrient deficiency, and some weed escapes. After we made the foliar pass, two days later, we were seeing some amazing results. Bean growth is right around R3.



Grey Leaf Spot in the Northern Section



Japanese Beetle defoliation in the Southern section. The beetle pressure is relatively the same throughout all the sections.

Eastern Section

In the Eastern Section, the crops look fantastic! Corn growth is right around VT – R1. Bean growth is right at R2. There hasn't any major disease that I have seen as of now in the fields. The amount of Japanese Beetles is unbelievable. Luckily the life cycle of the beetles is coming to an end. As far as recommendations go, I believe that insecticide would be a good investment. The bean leaves that I have seen had about 15% defoliation on the leaves. Even where the trade market is at, I strongly believe that you would benefit from an insecticide application.

Western Section

In the Western Section, the crops have really impressed me this week. There was some Grey Leaf Spot on the corn. Beans look good. Corn growth is right around VT. Bean growth is at R2. Japanese Beetles have been a pretty big issue for corn and beans thus far. Overall, the crops look great. If I had any recommendations, it would be to keep insecticide and fungicide application still an option.

Conclusion

Overall, corn and beans throughout the area look fantastic. Corn disease and Japanese Beetles are two of the biggest issues that we are facing. If there would be any time to consider a fungicide/insecticide application, it would be now. Thank you for taking the time to read this report. Have a great weekend.

Donovan Farmers Co-op

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Hydra Hume root sample.
 This sample was taken
 from the Northern
 Section at the V14 growth
 stage.

