June 18, 2013

Spraying for Cercospora Before Canopy Closure

I have been getting some questions on DSVs. The questions are “DSVs are approaching 50; do we need to start thinking about spraying for Cercospora even when the canopy is not closed yet”?

According to Dr. Hanson, with the late planting season, it’s best to count DSVs when the plants emerge. During greenhouse trials, it’s hard to establish Cercospora at the 10th leaf stage and below.

We start to see Cercospora at the 10+ leaf stages even if the canopy is not closed. For an example: if you planted May 10th and the plants emerge May 15th, then start to count DSVs on the 15th. However, if you do notice Cercospora, then a spray program is highly recommended, but don’t confuse Cercospora with Ramularia or Alternaria.

For the 2013 Cercospora Management Program, visit Ag Updates (March 27, 2013) or contact your Agriculturalist.