Application of the Integrated Aerobiology Modeling System to Soybean Rust Forecasting in 2006

Scott A. Isard Penn State University

&

Joseph M. Russo ZedX Inc.

Integrated Aerobiology Modeling System (IAMS)



Spatial and Temporal Considerations

Model domain is 7-50 ^oN latitude and 60-130 ^oE longitude

Grid resolution = 10 km²

Standard pressure levels (surface, 1000, 900, 800, 700, 600, 500 mb)

Model time step = 1 hr



Data Sources

NOAA Models (winds, temperatures...) Rapid Update Cycle Forecast (RUC) North American Mesoscale (NAM) Global Forecast System (GFS)

NEXRAD stage-4 radar (precipitation)

NOAA satellites (precipitation)

USDA crop statistics (soybean acreage for counties)

Sentinel plot and mobile scout observations (crop stage, disease severity)

Epidemiology field studies (aerobiological and epidemiological relationships)



Source area, growth stage, and disease incidence and severity derived from observations

Spore release occurs over a 6 hr mid-morning to mid-afternoon period

Escape of Spores from Infected Soybean Canopy



Spore escape fraction is calculated as a function of surface wind speed

Spore Transport and Mortality



- Escaped spores spread out from mid-point of a grid cell along radi comprising a 15 $^{\rm O}$ arc centered on the wind vector
- Transport distance along each radi equals the wind run for the period of calculation
- Mortality by UV radiation is proportional to cloud-adjusted, surface solar radiation

Wet and Dry Deposition of Soybean Rust Spores



Dry deposition occurs when it is not raining and is calculated as a linear function of mean downward vertical velocity for the period of calculation

Wet deposition occurs when it is raining and is proportional to the precipitation total for the period of calculation

Soybean Plant Growth and Soybean Rust Disease Submodels

Growing degree soybean crop model that calculates both LAI and phenological stages Soybean cohorts in a grid cell are "planted" over a 8 week period Soybean plant emergence and growth are functions of weather variables

Disease progress is a function of temperature, leaf wetness, current infection level, and amount of non-infected foliage

Tropical Storm Ernesto (Aug 29-Sept 2)



Aerial Concentration of Viable SBR Spores

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Integrated Aerobiology Model System

August 31, 2006









Aerial Concentration of Viable SBR Spores

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Daily Wet Deposition of Viable SBR Spores





Integrated Aerobiology Model System

September 1, 2006



Aerial Concentration of Viable SBR Spores

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Daily Wet Deposition of Viable SBR Spores





Integrated Aerobiology Model System

September 2, 2006



Soybean Rust Observation Maps





























Sentinel Plants early to mid reproductive stage ("infection ready")



Days on the calendar below are clickable

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			Disease	Severity			
no crop	no spores	latent	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%

"Sentinel Plants" on which viable spores were deposited showed latent infections the following week.



Days on the calendar below are clickable

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			Disease	Severity			
no crop	no spores	latent	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%

The IAMS indicates that the first symptoms of soybean rust would become visible in a few counties scattered across the lower **Ohio River Valley** on the 11th day after spore deposition



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			Disease	Severity			
no crop	no spores	latent	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%

The first discovery of soybean rust in the region was made on the 13th day after deposition



Days on the calendar below are clickable

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			Disease	Severity			
no crop	no spores	latent	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%

One week later, soybean rust had been discovered in numerous counties within the region.

The model predicted pustules would become visible before infections were actually found.

Possible reasons for the discrepancy are:

1-Use of "sentinel plants" in IAMS

2-Paucity of green soybean plants in field

3-Little urgency to scout

4-Model simplifications

5-Lack of model validation

Aerobiology Model Predictions of Soybean Rust Disease Severity



Days on the calendar below are clickable

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			Disease	Severity			
no crop	no spores	latent	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%

One month after soybean rust spores had been deposited, symptoms of the disease had been discovered in 36 counties in the region



Days on the calendar below are clickable

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			Disease	Severity			
no crop	no spores	latent	0-20%	21-40%	41-60%	61-80%	81-100%

Evaluation of Aerobiology Model



Each observation in the histogram above represents the first positive find in a county.

Negative differences (yellow bars) in the histogram indicate that the model predicts symptom appearance prior to observation (i.e., for 1 county the model was 7 days ahead, for 1 county the model was 6 days ahead, for 2 counties it was 5 days ahead.... Positive differences (observations precede model predictions are represented by blue bars.

Evaluation of Aerobiology Model Using Data from 23-24 September 2006 Soybean Rust Spore Incursion into the Lower Ohio River Valley (KY, IN, IL & MO)



Difference Between Prediction and When County Turned Red on USDA Website



Anticipated Changes in Aerobiology Model for 2007

- Sentinel soybean plant ("infection-ready") risk assessment tool for mobile scouting.
- Improved canopy escape parameter function of wind speed and crop stage (results of field research in FL).
- Automated soybean growth stage "biofix" for sentinel plot model runs.
- Adjustment of infection development for drought and extreme temperatures.
- Expanded multiple model ensemble approach with updated training for human interpretation.