# Forecasting the spread of soybean rust using a nested climate model

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### Outlines

Prediction model system Prediction experiments Validation > Analyses of disease spread pattern West Kentucky hot spot Mississippi route >2006 climate conditions for rust dispersion and looking ahead "Wind hole" Rainfall/humidity Future model improvements

**SLU/ISU Rust** prediction model – An climate-dispersal-disease integrated system Global model – Scripps Institution of Oceanography MM5 – National Center for Atmospheric Research HYSPLIT – NOAA Air **Resource Lab** Disease model – Iowa State University



#### **The Coupled Dispersal Model**

**Runs in trajectory or concentration mode** o trajectory – forward/backward tracking o concentration – airborne and at surface Treats spores as particles of plumes o spores passively move in with atmosphere once lifted o spore plumes dilute, split, merge according to advection and diffusion physics Considers dry and wet deposition • gravitational settling o rainfall washout ✓ Incorporates simple aerobiological viability criteria UV radiation, temperature



# Weekly forecast airborne spore concentration during 6/24-7/29





# Weekly forecast ground spore concentration during 7/1-8/11











Courtesy of Marshall Beatty, Syngenta (Spore counts are based on morphology only)

# Samples of model simulated spore tracks ending at western Kentucky - hindcast











#### Comparison of disease detection with rainfall anomaly



SBR infection as of 10/16/2006

#### Soil Moisture(in mm) within top 2 m, May-October, 2006



Source: NCEP/NOAA

#### Surface relative humidity (%): 2006 vs. long-term mean







Projected Spore Concentration (log N/m^3)

Spore counts: which are visually inspected, but not PCR checked. Courtesy of Syngenta

> As of 11/18/2005



#### Monthly rainfall amounts anomaly in 2006





#### Schematics showing wind shear generating turbulence



Time sequence of shear-generated turbulence development

#### (adapted from Stull 1998)





Schematics illustrating wind speed effects on turbulent mixing

#### Wind effects on spore escape rate through turbulence

# Monthly surface mean wind velocity near LA-MS border

Dependence of spore escape on wind speeds (theoretical)





#### Monthly wind velocity at 850mb (~1500m), showing "wind hole" in early season





## Summary and Discussion

The climate-dispersal coupled model was used to forecast spore movement and disease development up to 2-4 weeks in advance.

The 2006 growing season forecasts suggest that the model can capture general patterns of spore dispersal, including the routes along the East Coast and lower Mississippi Basin.

### Summary and Discussion - continued

- A "wind hole" was evident in early season, but diminished later, which possibly allowed the rust to spread northward near the end of the season.
- Western Kentucky was found to be conducive to the rust infection, likely due to the high humidity resulting from more precipitation and soil moisture.

The South Costal states were drier in early season 2006, partly explaining the lateness of the disease spread.

## **Future Work**

Further quantify spore releasing rate using canopy turbulence model.
Use EPA's CMAQ and WRF chemistry models with different dispersal parameterizations, in addition to HYSPLIT.