

PLANT DISEASE AND INSECT ADVISORY



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Soybean Rust Update

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Dry conditions in the southeastern US and Texas has limited the development of soybean rust in 2006. There are a few patches of kudzu in FL, AL, and GA currently infected with rust, but the only rust found on soybeans thus far this growing season has been on sentinel plots in far south Florida. Early this year, rust was identified in Weslaco, TX on some experimental soybean plots. These plots matured and were harvested during the late winter. Since that time, the Rio Grande Valley and other areas of Texas have experienced prolonged and severe drought conditions. As a result, no new rust has been found on either Kudzu or soybeans in Texas to date. Because of the lack of rust pressure in Texas, and the dry conditions in the mid-south states of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, the risk for rust development in Oklahoma is currently low.

Oklahoma has continued participating in the national soybean rust monitoring program in 2006. There are 15 sentinel plot locations in Oklahoma in 2006 (Figure 1) planted and sampled by county educators and area specialists. Most of the locations are planted with maturity group 3, 4, and 5 varieties. Samples (100 leaves) are being taken each week and submitted to the Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Laboratory where they are being incubated in a moist chamber and scanned under a dissecting scope for the presence or absence of rust pustules. We have not found soybean rust in Oklahoma to date.



Figure 1

The status of soybean rust in Oklahoma and nationally can be tracked at <http://www.sbrusa.net/>. Figure 2 shows the national rust picture from sentinel plots. By clicking on the state icon and selecting 'Oklahoma' a better resolution of the current reports from sentinel plot locations in the state can be viewed (Figure 3). Commentary from each state detailing state-specific conditions and disease status can be read by clicking on a state in the "blue map" (Figure 4).

Figure 2

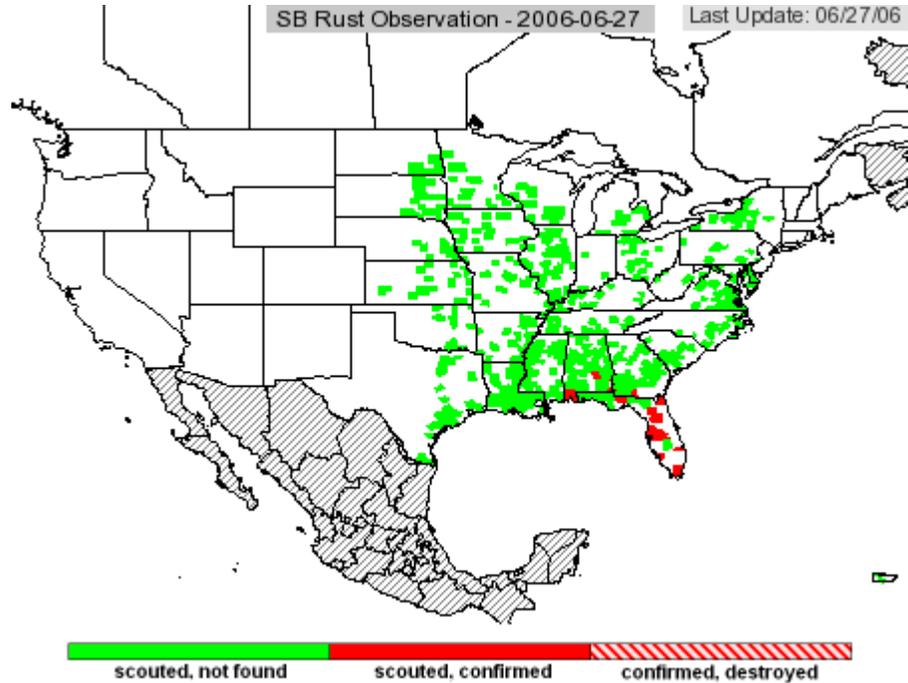


Figure 3

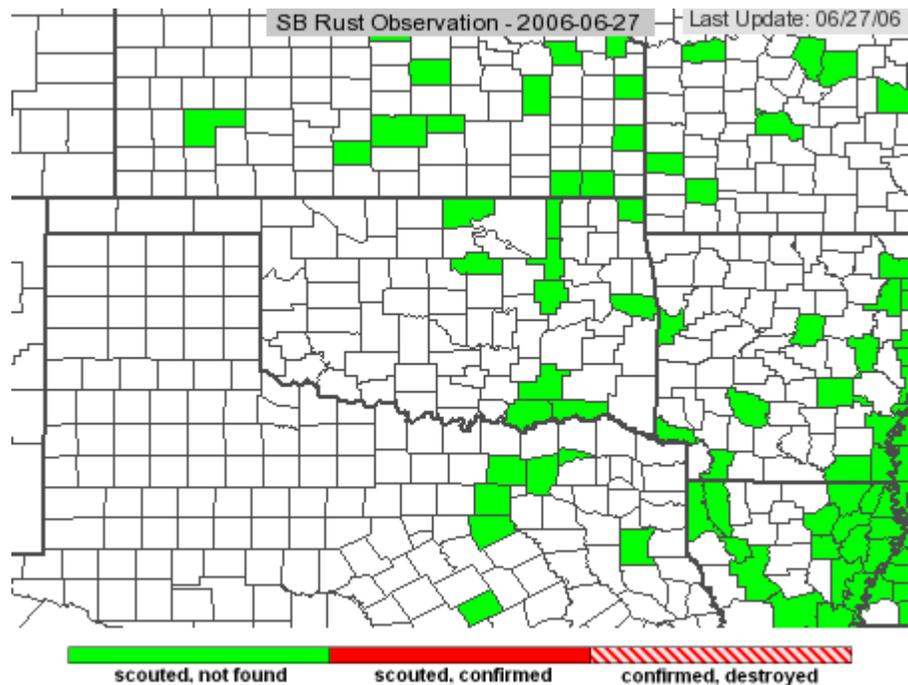
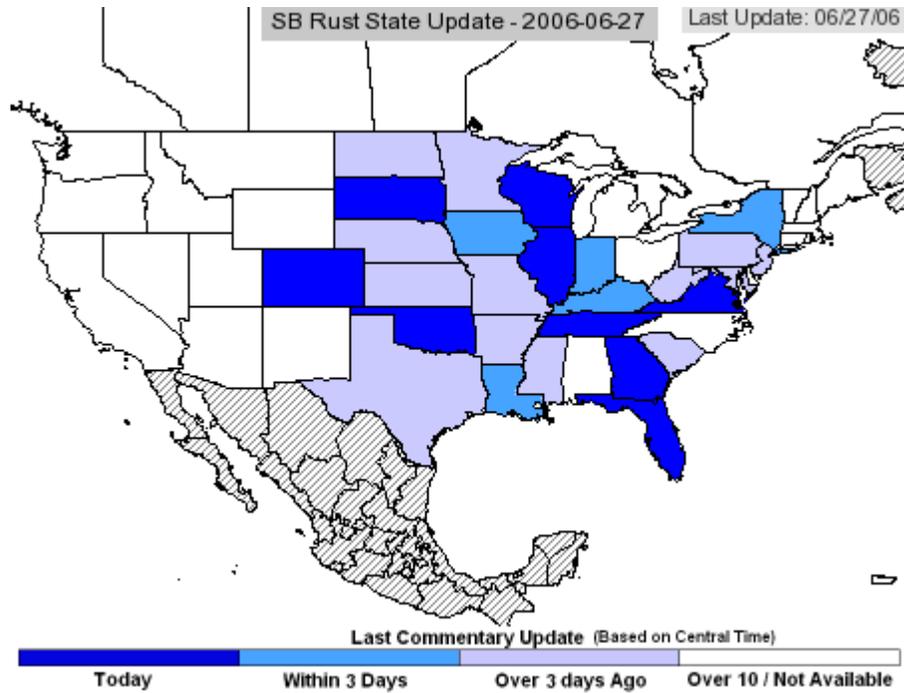


Figure 4



Dr. Richard Grantham
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