



# Pest e-alerts



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## **Soybean Rust Found in Two Oklahoma Counties**

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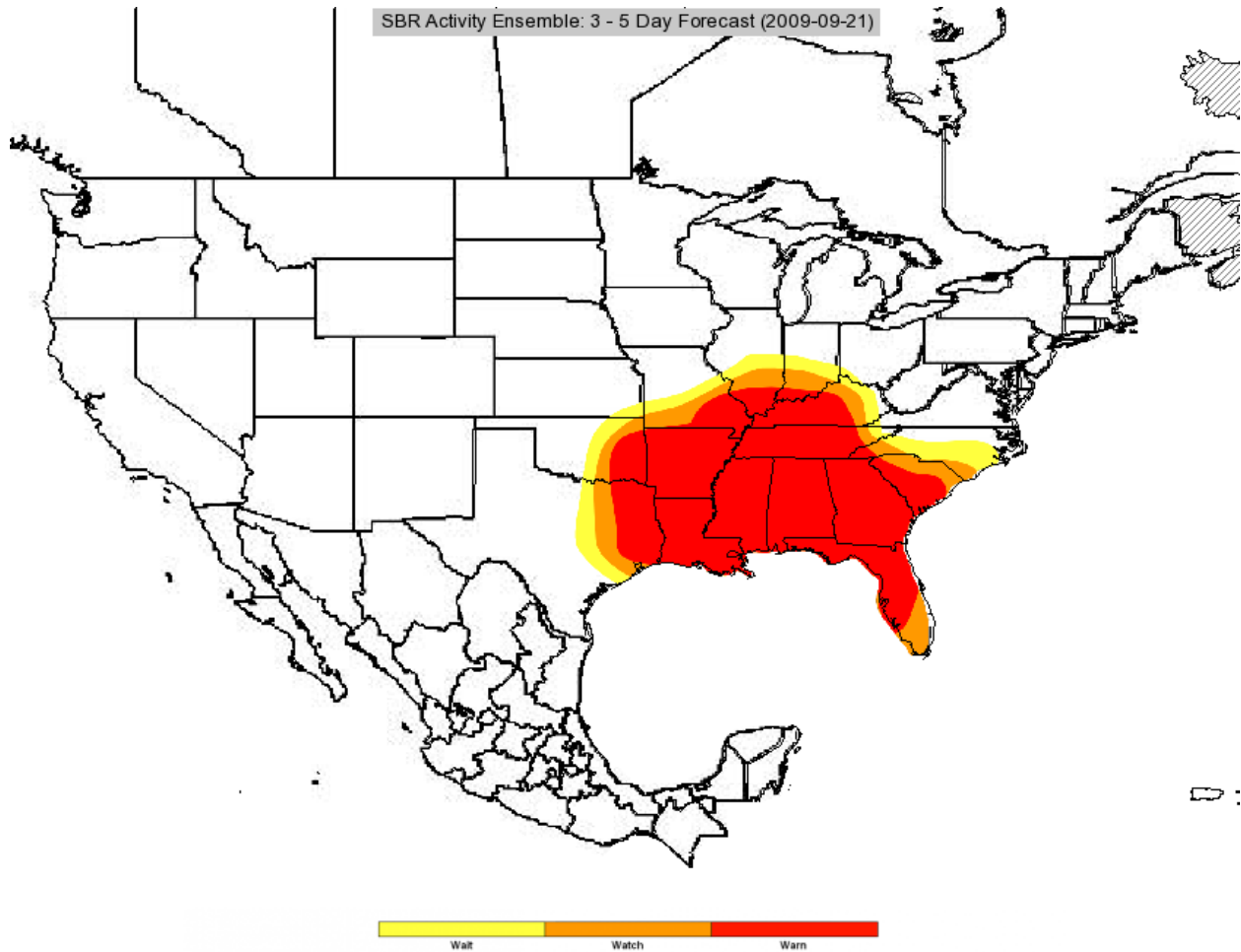


Soybeans leaves from sentinel plots in Bryan and Sequoyah Counties as well as from a commercial field in Sequoyah Co. were positive for rust this week. Both of the sentinel plots were at the R4 growth stage. This is the first report of soybean rust in Oklahoma in 2009. Rust incidence, the % of leaves with rust, ranged from 3% at the Sequoyah Co. sentinel plot to 24% at the Bryan Co. sentinel plot. Disease severity, the percentage of leaf area with rust, was less than 1% at each location. However, several of the leaves from the Bryan Co. location had over 100 pustules. Based on past experiences with rust in 2007, this is a rapid jump from no disease the previous week. Weather conditions have been very favorable for disease development in recent weeks. Several counties in Arkansas along the Oklahoma border have also recently become positive and rust is very active in our neighboring state. It is likely that additional

counties in eastern OK will become positive shortly.

Many fields in Oklahoma have advanced past growth stages at which soybean rust causes yield loss. Fields at R6 (a full pod at one of the top four nodes) are no longer vulnerable to rust damage. Fields at R4 or earlier are still vulnerable. Fields at R5 (first seed, a pod with a developing seed at one of the top four nodes) are intermediate in vulnerability and it is possible that fields at R5 will escape damage from rust. Based on the two recent finds and the soybean rust activity forecasts (see below), growers with fields having good yield potential in Sequoyah, Muskogee, Bryan, and Choctaw Counties, any additional counties adjacent to positive counties

in Oklahoma, and counties adjacent to positive counties in Arkansas should consider treating with a fungicide to control rust. It will be a judgment call as to whether or not to treat fields at R5. I recommend against treating fields at R6 since pod fill is mostly complete at this stage. Consider using a DMI or triazole fungicide such as Folicur (or another formulation of tebuconazole), Topguard, Domark, or Laredo since the disease is probably already present in most fields in these counties. We will extend the spray recommendation to other counties if and when they become positive. The current distribution of soybean rust in Oklahoma and in other states can be viewed at <http://sbr.ipmpipe.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi>.



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