

North Carolina Cooperative Extension
April 2015

Bertie County Farmline

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Contact Us

For more information regarding any of your farming needs, please feel free to contact our office at 794-5317. Your questions and concerns are important to us.



Bertie County Cooperative Extension Ag Information Line

By calling **794-5331** Bertie County farmers can hear the **7-day** weather forecast. This information is updated daily beginning **April 13, 2015** and will run until the cold weather threat to cotton planting has ended this spring.

Peanut Planting Dates Affect on Yields

Dr. David Jordan, Extension Peanut Specialist put together the following information relative to planting dates in North Carolina.

Here is a recent summary with Bailey with planting dates of early, mid and late May. We had 4 digging dates in this trial and I picked the highest yielding of the 4 digging dates for each planting date for the comparison. **Peanut in the mid and late plantings yielded more than peanut from the early plantings in 2013.** Peanut from all 3 planting dates yielded the same in 2014.

During 2013 early May was very cool and we had a great deal of thrips damage, so this may explain the lower yields with the early planting. Keep in mind that growing conditions were great in 2013 and 2014 for the entire season (except early May during 2013).

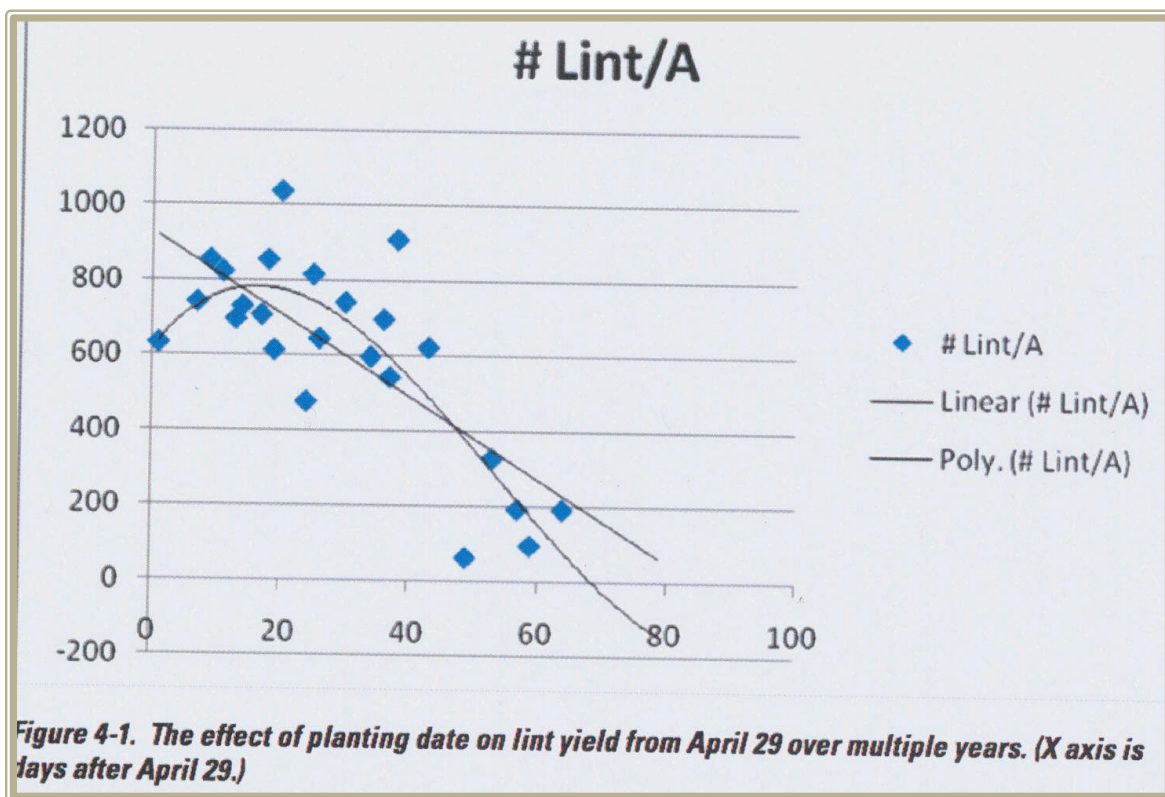
The most consistent yields across 6 years of testing occurred with mid-May plantings (5 of 6 years this planting equaled or exceeded the other planting dates.) As always, I suggest planting peanut in mid-May if at all possible.



Cotton Planting Decisions

Northeastern North Carolina is a short-season cotton production region; planting date has a large, direct effect on development, maturity, and harvested yield. Planting date also influences insect control, plant growth regulator, and defoliation strategies indirectly. Decisions on planting date should not be taken lightly.

The optimum cotton planting date has been shifting later due to several developments. These include varieties bred to be earlier, boll weevil eradication, Bt cotton, the loss of Temik for thrips control, improved seed treatments, and the availability of growth regulators to manage maturity. In addition, the high cost of seed due to the technology delivered through the seed has made replanting less desirable. Figure 4-1 shows the effect of planting date on cotton yields over a five-year period.



Careful analysis of the data presented in Figure 4-1 shows that cotton yields begin to drop to below early planting levels around 40 days after April 29, which would be after June 10. These data suggest the optimum planting date should be shifted later rather than earlier. Planning to complete planting by May 31 should provide a long planting period and a short "insurance" period should replanting be needed. **Cotton planting should be completed by June 10 if full yield potential is desired.**

Cotton Seed Size and Cool Germination Effects on Cotton Stand

Dr. Keith Edmisten, Extension Cotton Specialist provided the following comments. Growers often ask if small seeds are as capable of producing good stands as larger seeds. A study was conducted by Dr. Sandy Stewart to see if that was the case in Louisiana. He included an early April planting date that would be similar to what we often encounter in North Carolina.

The take home message is that larger seed are more likely to be important for stand establishment when cool germination values are low. Both sizes of seed worked well when cool germination values were high. This stresses the importance of knowing your cool germination values when planting under less than ideal conditions, especially with varieties that have smaller seed.

Chlorothalonil In Short Supply

Many of you have probably heard that chlorothalonil may be in short supply this year. **Chlorothalonil (whether Bravo, Echo, Equus, or other generics) is very effective against leaf spots while also being relatively inexpensive.** It also is our best defense against fungicide resistance in leaf spots. **Dr. Barbara Shew, Extension Peanut Pathologist**, provided the following discussion on various options for managing leaf spots if chlorothalonil supplies are limited while keeping the risk of fungicide resistance low.

The popular cultivar Bailey holds up very well against leaf spots and the new high-oleic cultivar Sullivan looks even better than Bailey in our studies so far.

Growing Bailey or Sullivan under excellent rotation means that most growers should be able to **manage leaf spots with only four calendar sprays.**

In the Virginia-Carolina (V-C) area, we typically recommend that growers use chlorothalonil alone or in mixture for their first and final sprays, mixed with stem rot fungicides such as tebuconazole, Artisan, or Convoy, and in alternation with the resistance prone fungicides in groups 3, 7, and 11.

The first spray: an easy alternative to chlorothalonil in this and other situations is Tilt/Bravo and its generic equivalents (products with propiconazole + chlorothalonil). This product is not expected to be in short supply and is a good choice for the first spray. It can be used in place of chlorothalonil at other times in the season as well. Other fungicides can be used for the first spray, but this can limit options for the rest of the season.

Fungicides from the different fungicide resistance groups also tend to have somewhat different activities against peanut diseases. Thus, mixing products from different activity/resistance groups can broaden their efficacy profiles.

See Table 6.4 on the next page.

Table 6-4. Characteristics of Selected Fungicides Labeled for Peanut Disease Control

Brand	Active Ingredient (group number)	Rate per Acre ¹	Controls ²	Uses
Abound	azoxystrobin (11)	12.3 to 24.6 oz	ELS, LLS, web blotch, stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot	Mid-season, especially where soil borne pathogens are a problem; no more than 2 applications of an unmixed group 11 fungicide in a 5-spray program.
Artisan	Propiconazole + flutolanil (3 + 7)	16 oz	ELS, stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot	Mid-season, especially when soil borne pathogens are a problem; use a good leaf spot fungicide for next calendar or advisory spray
Bravo, various generic	chlorothalonil (M)	1.5 pt	ELS, LLS, web blotch, pepper spot	Inexpensive, resistance management. Repeated application can flare spider mites and Sclerotinia blight.
Convoy	flutolanil (7)	10 to 32 oz	stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot	Mid-season; does not control foliar pathogens
Endura	boscalid (7)	8 to 10 oz	Sclerotinia blight; ELS, LLS, web blotch	At row closing or according to Sclerotinia advisory
Evito	fluoxastrobin (11)	5.7 oz	ELS, LLS, web blotch, stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot	Mid-season, especially where soil borne pathogens are a problem; no more than 2 applications of an unmixed group 11 fungicide in a 5-spray program.
Fontelis	penthiopyrad (7)	12 to 24 oz	ELS, LLS, web blotch, stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot	Mid-season, especially where soil borne pathogens are a problem; has some activity against Sclerotinia blight. No more than 2 applications in a 5-spray program.
Headline	pyraclostrobin (11)	6 to 15 oz	ELS, LLS, web blotch (all rates); stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot (high rates)	Mid-to late season; no more than 2 applications of an unmixed group 11 fungicide in a 5-spray program.
Omega	fluazinam (29)	1 to 1.5 pt	Sclerotinia blight, suppresses stem rot	At row closing or according to Sclerotinia advisory
Priaxor	pyraclostrobin (11) + fluxapyroxad (7)	4 to 8 fl oz	ELS, LLS, web blotch, pepper spot (all rates); stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot (high rates)	Mid-to late season; no more than 2 applications in a 5-spray program.
Proline	prothioconazole (3)	5.7 fl oz	CBR, Stem rot	Apply in furrow for suppression of CBR and stem rot.
Propulse	Fluopyram + prothioconazole (7 + 3)	13.7 fl oz	Stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb rot; suppresses Sclerotinia blight	Apply during periods that favor stem rot, limb rot, or Sclerotinia blight development.
Provost	tebuconazole + prothioconazole (3 + 3)	7 to 10.7 fl oz	ELS, LLS, web blotch, stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot	Mid-season, especially where soil borne pathogens are a problem; no more than 3 applications per season (2 is preferred)
Stratego	propiconazole + trifloxystrobin (3 + 11)	7 to 14 oz	ELS, LLS, web blotch, pepper spot	Early season; counts as a strobilurin application
Various generic	tebuconazole (3)	7.2 oz	ELS, LLS, web blotch, stem rot, Rhizoctonia limb and pod rot	Mid-season, especially where soil borne pathogens are a problem; mix with chlorothalonil or thiophanate methyl to improve foliar disease control. Inexpensive.
Tilt, Bravo, various generic	Propiconazole + chlorothalonil (3 + M)	1.5 pt premix	ELS, LLS, web blotch, pepper spot	First spray, inexpensive, resistance management. Can be used full season if stem rot is not present; repeated use can flare spider mites in dry years.

¹Rate listed is for most common formulation. Check label. ²ELS=Early leaf spot; LLS=Late leaf spot.

Last spray: *If you can get it, chlorothalonil (or Tilt/Bravo) is still your best alternative for the last spray of the season.* This broad-spectrum fungicide can kill any fungicide resistant members of the leaf spot population so that they do not carry over into later years. If you must use a product other than chlorothalonil, mixing fungicides from two different activity groups is strongly recommended. If possible, one of these fungicides should be from a group not previously used during the season.

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A handwritten signature of Richard W. Rhodes in black ink, written in a cursive style.

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