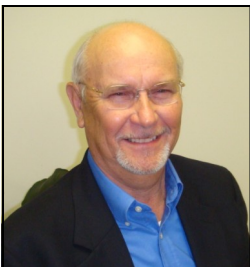


THE TAPA QUARTERLY

The Newsletter of the Tennessee Agricultural Production Association

Timing is Everything

By Dr. Melvin Newman
Professor Emeritus



When applying fungicides for the best disease control “timing is everything”. Research and demonstrations at the University of Tennessee have clearly shown that fungicides must be applied properly at a time just before diseases get started. If applied too soon the fungicide may lose its effectiveness while if applied too late the disease (fungus) may have already gone too far. Many diseases start up slowly in the early vegetative phase of the plant. But then as the crop begins its reproductive cycle later in the season disease causing fungi infect rapidly and are more difficult to control. Therefore, a single fungicide application

at that time will have the greatest affect and will produce the most yield increase possible. Some fungicides also have extra health benefits that can increase yields as well when applied at this time.

Use of foliar fungicides has increased dramatically in field crops over the last 10 years. This increase has been spurred by the discovery of new more effective fungicides, increased yields and higher commodity prices. Today many producers are applying fungicides to their crops to control diseases and increase yields. However, producers may be missing some yield increase by not spraying at the right time.

It may be difficult for producers to spend money on a fungicide when their crop seems to be looking just fine with no apparent disease problems. But, in many cases this may be just the right time to apply a fungicide. In other words to stop disease, fungicide application must be made to “healthy plants” before disease gets started. In soybean, this means spraying at the reproductive stage (R3). This is when there is at least one small pod (3/16 inch long) on the main stem after plants have at least 12 to 15 nodes. In corn, spraying at the VT growth stage (full tassel stage) has been the most productive time to spray. In wheat, research has shown that spraying at the heading stage (F 10.1) will protect both the flag leaf and head from most disease. However, in Tennessee and some other surrounding states, fungicide application later at the flowering stage (F 10.5.1) can reduce the head scab disease and prevent toxin production in the grain. In cotton, fungicide application should be made about two weeks after first bloom. Some research has shown additional yield increases in soybean and corn when fungicides are applied at an early vegetative stage in conjunction with the normal application stage.

There are several other factors that can influence the amount of disease. Weather conditions before and after fungicide application, crop variety, crop rotation, soil fertility and other factors may influence the amount of disease development and yield increase from the use of a foliar fungicide. Producers are encouraged to manage their crops for disease control using all available methods. Just using a foliar fungicide may not control all diseases without properly using other methods such as disease resistant varieties and crop rotations.



ISSUE 2

June 2013

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Time to Pre-Register!

The TAPA Annual Meeting and Agronomic Workshop is July 16-18, and you will not want to miss it. Terry Kelley has an excellent program in store, with excellent speakers and timely topics. Click on this link to access the pre-registration form:

<http://eppserver.ag.utk.edu/Extension/TAPA/Forms/TAPA-Pre-reg-Form-4-13.pdf>

After completing this form, please print and mail it to John Duke by July 5, 2013. We hope to see you in Gatlinburg!!!!

Simmons Visits Hill Legislators

The Southern Crop Protection Association makes annual visits to Washington, D.C. to talk to Southern Senators and Representatives about Agriculture issues we face in our business and farms. This year, over 40 professionals representing SCPA and allied organizations visited Washington on May 8-9. Members of industry from all Southern states visited their respective Washington Representatives. From Tennessee, Louis Rodrigue of Helena, Bob Lusby of FMC, Kevin Steward of Gowan, Michael Boden of Syngenta, and Gerald Simmons from TAPA visited eight of the nine Tennessee U.S. Representatives and Senator Bob Corker.

The major issues for discussion for 2013 were General Permitting under the Clean Water Act, Waters of the US definitions and clarification, The Endangered Species Act Consultations for Pesticides, and Biotech Labeling. However, in lieu of recent news regarding the fertilizer explosion in Texas, Washington was anxious to solicit ideas and concerns for fertilizer safety. In addition, several Congressmen asked questions regarding EPA administrative actions which seem to have increased in absence of new legislation. Congressional Representatives also wanted to know and discussed the attitudes and concerns of folks within their specific district on other topics.

In general, our Tennessee Washington Representatives are very pro Agriculture and most committed support for the specific issues discussed. In addition, the majority of the Tennessee Representatives and Senators have conservative views and tend to support Ag programs in general. We must remember that the majority of Washington are from high population areas and agriculture is not an

important issue to them. In addition, there are so many lobbying groups in Washington daily that have views that are not always positive to farming and the business of agriculture. Therefore, it is very important that we all get to know our Washington representatives and communicate our industry needs and views as often as possible. Washington needs to always know that we are watching.

(Mr. Simmons will provide the membership a full report on his Washington Hill Visits at TAPA's Annual Meeting in Gatlinburg on July 18.)



Gerald Simmons, TAPA representative (right), joins fellow Tennessee attendees Kevin Steward and Michael Boden in a legislative discussion with Rep. Stephen Fincher (R-TN).



News from the Hill

Senate Majority Opposes CWA Guide, Creating Hurdle for EPA

A proposed legislative amendment to bar EPA from finalizing its controversial guidance on the reach of the Clean Water Act (CWA) won majority support in the Senate, including from eight Democrats, though it failed to reach the 60-vote threshold necessary for passage -- a signal that the guide still faces opposition in Congress as EPA weighs whether to issue it prior to completing a related rule. [S. 601](#), the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), authorizing Army Corps of Engineers water projects, passed the Senate May 15 by an 83-14 vote, without the CWA jurisdiction amendment.

But the bill retained controversial provisions streamlining for 10 years environmental review of water projects despite heavy opposition to the measure from environmentalists. Despite the failure to pass the CWA jurisdiction amendment, an industry

source says "it is encouraging that there is a majority in the Senate who think EPA had better be careful about overreaching. I think the agency has to be pretty careful about what they propose."

[The amendment](#), proposed by Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY), would have forbidden EPA from using the proposed guidance, "or any substantially similar guidance, as the basis for any decision regarding the scope" of the CWA, or any rulemaking effort. Fifty-two senators voted for the measure, including Democrats Mark Begich (AK), Joe Donnelly (IN), Mary Landrieu (LA), Heidi Heitkamp (ND), Kay Hagan (NC), Claire McCaskill (MO), Mark Pryor (AR) and Joe Manchin (WV).

However, ground rules for voting adopted by unanimous consent before consideration of the bill required 60 votes to attach an amendment. "We'd



prefer to have attached the amendment, but it's encouraging. I don't think we take anything off the table now" with regards to future legislation to restrict CWA jurisdiction, the industry source says.

Insideepa.com
May 20, 2013

House Passes Farm Bill

The Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management (FARRM) Act of 2013, by a large, bipartisan vote of 36-10 passed the House Agriculture Committee; Committee Members also adopted, by voice vote, an en bloc amendment. Chairman Frank Lucas said, "I am proud of the Committee's effort to advance a farm bill with significant savings and reforms. We achieve nearly \$40 billion in savings by eliminating outdated government programs and reforming others. No other committee in Congress is volun-

tarily cutting money, in a bipartisan way, from its jurisdiction to reduce the size and scope of the federal government. I appreciate the efforts of my colleagues and the bipartisan nature in which this legislation was written and approved. I look forward to debating the bill on the House floor this summer.

Part of the ability to pass the bill may come down to the rules for debating it on the floor. A source said the bill needs a rule that would manage the

number of amendments that would be brought and debated on the floor.

"Otherwise it would just be chaos and you would have 600 amendments to deal with.. Senate floor debate is expected to begin next week, and if the House can act in June."

Peanut Farm Market News
May 16, 2013

2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

UT Weed Tour
Thursday, June 20

Location: WTREC, Jackson, TN
 Registration: 8:30 a.m.
 Tour begins: 9:00 a.m.
 Contact: Larry Steckel (731) 425-4705

Progeny Ag Products Field Day
Thursday, July 25

Location: Progeny Research Farm (1.5 miles west of Wynn, AR, on Hwy 64)
 Registration: 8:00 a.m.
 Tours begin: 9:00 a.m.
 Contact: Hillary Spain (870) 208-6032

DuPont Pioneer Research Station Field Day
Wednesday, July 31

Location: DuPont Pioneer Research Station
 2223 Old Troy Rd, Union City, TN
 Registration: 8:00 a.m.
 Tours begin: 8:30 a.m.
 Contact: Scott Mitchell (270) 519-2395

Monsanto Ag Academy Field Day
Thursday, August 8

Location: Monsanto. 2303 Pleasant Valley Ave., Union City, TN
 Registration: 8:30 a.m.
 Tours begin: 9:00 a.m.
 Contact: Larry Ganann (901) 326-7140

EVENTS	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Beef and Forage	June 13	7:30 a.m. EDT	Blount Unit, Louisville
Fruits of the Backyard	June 18	8:30 a.m. CDT	Spring Hill
Summer Color	June 25	8:00 a.m. EDT	UT Gardens, Knoxville
Tobacco, Beef and More	June 27	7:00 a.m. CDT	Springfield
Summer Celebration	July 11	10 a.m. CDT	WTREC, Jackson
MidSouth Ag Technology Field Day	July 18	7:00-12 noon CDT	Agricenter, Memphis, TN
Steak and Potatoes	August 6	8 a.m. CDT	Crossville
Fall Gardens' Festival	August 27	9:00 a.m. CDT	Crossville
UT Cotton Tour	September 4	8:00 a.m. CDT	WTREC, Jackson
Turfgrass and Ornamental	September 12	8:00 a.m. EDT	Plant Sciences Unit, Knoxville
Pumpkin Field Day	September 26	11:00 a.m. CDT	WTREC, Jackson
Woods and Wildlife	October 3	8:00 a.m. EDT	Oliver Springs
Northeast Tennessee Beef Expo	October 10	7:30 a.m. EDT	Greeneville
Heritage Festival	October 12	9:00 a.m. CDT	Grand Junction
Fall Folklore Jamboree	October 19	9:00 a.m. CDT	Milan
ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting	November 3-6		Tampa, FL

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INDUSTRY NEWS

FBSciences and Clinton Foundation Announce Significant Advancements for African Crop Production

FBSciences, Inc., a global life science leader in natural plant health technologies, is pleased to announce the findings of a two-year agricultural research and trial program in Malawi as part of the Clinton Foundation and Salida Capital Foundation Partnership for Sustainable Development in Africa. Over the two-year average, the soybean seed treatment trials saw a 30% average yield increase (+US\$418 per hectare), the maize seed treatment a 30% average yield increase (+US\$189 per hectare), and the maize fertilizer enhancement trials yielded an average increase of 37% (+US\$187 per hectare). The results were significant in their implications for Malawi, one of the 20 poorest nations where 40 percent of the population lives on less than one dollar per day (US\$350/year). For local farmers and their families, these yields translate to double the average annual income of the average Malawi farmer.



In 2010, Salida Capital partnered with the Clinton Development Initiative (CDI) to increase the scope and impact of sustainable agriculture projects, including the CDI-run Mpherero Farm in Malawi, part of CDI's Anchor Farm Project. Salida Capital recognized the importance of improved agricultural technologies years ago when it first got involved with FBSciences. As part of the CDI's extensive agricultural work, Salida Capital charted a path forward for the projects in Malawi that included FBSciences' naturally derived and environmentally-friendly seed treatment and fertilizer technologies, which are generating excitement for agricultural modernization efforts in a region where food security is the chief economic vehicle for moving communities and individuals out of poverty.

As large numbers of smallholder farm families increase their incomes, they have the ability to improve their living condition and quality of life as well as the lives of their families. They can also afford to access available healthcare, education, and a higher level of food security.

With nearly 90 percent of Malawi's population engaged in farming, and one-third of the nation's GDP fueled by agriculture, the government of Malawi knows investment in agribusiness will go a long way to move communities and individuals out of poverty. FBSciences is grateful to both the Salida and Clinton Foundations and the government of Malawi for the invitation to conduct its trials in the development and use of its natural products with the growers in Malawi. In addition to working with the Malawi government to approve the products used in the Anchor Farm trials for full-scale commercial use, FBSciences also has current year long trials with Bunda Agricultural College and African seed producer and distributor Seed Co., the results of which are forthcoming. FBSciences has made several on-site visits supporting trial work with these partners that will go a long way in promoting and empowering local growers with the technology and knowledge necessary to ensure long-term success in the region.

John Bradley, FB Sciences



**TAPA OFFICERS
(2012-2013)**

President

Larry Steckel
WTREC
(731) 425-4705
lsteckel@utk.edu

President Elect

Terry Kelley
MidSouth Farmers Cooperative
(731) 772-9432
terrykelley@midsouthcoop.com

Secretary

Hugh Savoy
UT Ag. Extension Service
(865) 974-8840
hsavoy@utk.edu

Treasurer

John Duke
Tennessee Farmers Co-op
(615) 793-8355
jduke@ourcoop.com

Editor

Darrell Hensley
UT Extension Service
(865) 974-7958
dhensley@utk.edu

Past President

Gerald Simmons
Bayer & FMC (Retired)
(901) 756-6428
gwsimmons@aol.com

Executive Secretary

Ron Akin
Obion Grain Company
(731) 431-7216
ronakin64@gmail.com

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(2012-2013)**

Dir. / Academia

Don Tyler
WTREC
(731) 425-4747
dtyler@utk.edu

Dir. / Consultant

Dianne Jenkins
Jenkins Consulting
(731) 673-4252
joetn@ycinet.net

Dir. / Crop Protection

Steve Gibbs
Gibbs Agronomy
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gibbsagronomy@gmail.com

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Tennessee Valley Resources
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(615) 837-5148
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(423) 422-7565
haunjake@hotmail.com

*A glimpse back in time...
The TAPA beginning*

1996 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

At the February 1996 Annual Tennessee Agricultural Chemical Association (TACA) meeting, members voted in favor of dissolving TACA and forming a new organization, the "Tennessee Agricultural Production Association (TAPA)." Members of the Tennessee Plant Food Education Association (TPFEA) also voted during their annual meeting to dissolve and form the new organization provided TACA voted in favor. The two boards then met and assigned a committee to put the wheel in motion toward dissolving the two organizations such that TAPA could be formed. Further investigation led to the conclusion that, due to the time frame involved in chartering the new organization and the fact that tax exempt status is becoming more difficult to obtain as well as the lengthy process, the most feasible move would be to merge the two existing organizations to form TAPA there by achieving both the federal and state tax exempt status that TACA currently holds. The by-laws and constitution of the two organizations require that this come before the membership by vote. Therefore, at our annual meeting in September TACA/TPFEA Meeting, ballots will again be circulated for voting approval of the membership of both organizations to vote in favor of the merger. The program committee has an excellent program outlined for the upcoming meeting, so mark your calendars now for the TAPA/TPFEA meeting in September.

Excerpt from TAPA Newsletter, June 1996

The TAPA Quarterly is published in March, June, September, and December. Please submit articles or other information to be published to Ron Akin at tapanews@ymail.com. Use this e-mail address if you wish to unsubscribe to *The TAPA Quarterly*.

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