Greene Crop Consulting, Inc.

Greene Gazette Newsletter

27 July 2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Weather Update

- Potential Rainfall
- Possible Hail or Wind Damage

Indiana Soybean Diseases

- Red Crown Rot
- Frogeye Leaf Spot
- Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS)
- Septoria Brown Spot

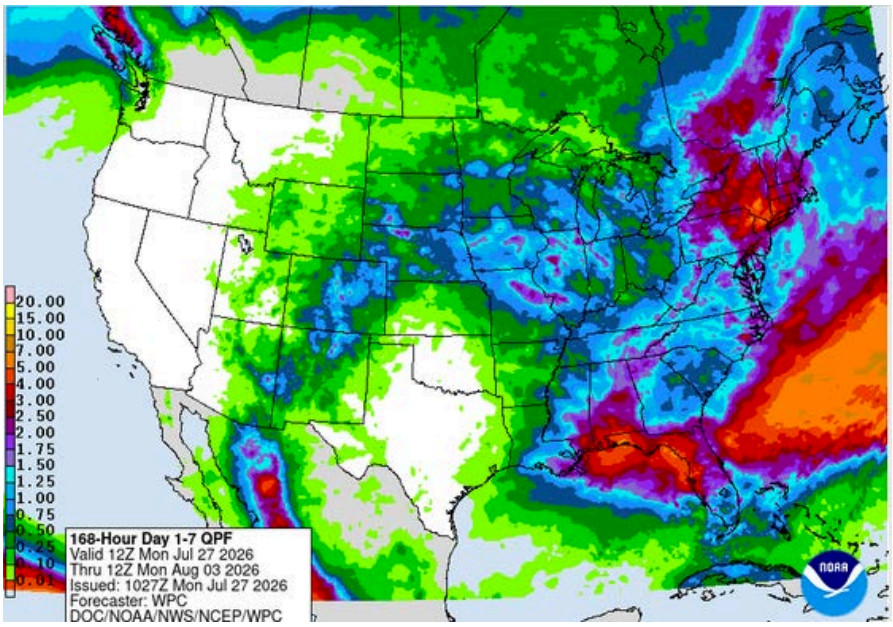
Drone Spraying

- An Increasingly Valuable Tool
- Useful for Spot Treatments, Smaller Fields, and Difficult Ground

Tar Spot Update

- Shelby & Johnson County
- What to Watch For

WEATHER UPDATE



We are expecting more rainfall this week than we saw last week, with thunderstorms and scattered pop-up showers likely throughout the area. Be sure to monitor your fields closely for any hail or wind damage that may accompany these storm systems.

Weather Prediction Center (WPC)
Home Page

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

COMMON INDIANA SOYBEAN DISEASES:

Red Crown Rot:

Why it Matters: Red Crown Rot (RCR) is an emerging disease in the Midwest that can cause premature plant death and significant yield losses. It is often confused with Sudden Death Syndrome because the foliar symptoms are similar.

What to look for:

- Yellowing and browning between leaf veins
- Dark brown discoloration at the base of the stem
- Tiny, reddish fungal structures ("red crowns") on roots and lower stems near the soil line

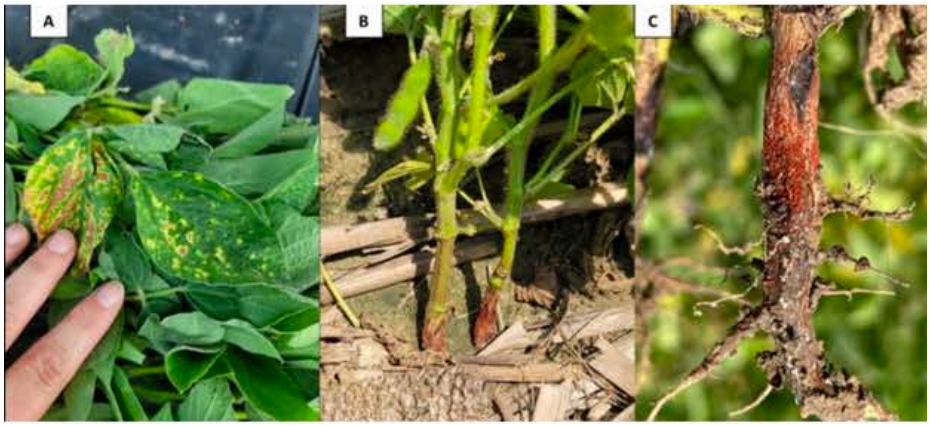
Favorable Conditions:

- Warm soils
- Poorly drained or compacted fields
- Continuous soybean production

Source: Red Crown Rot- Purdue Extension

Management

- Similar to SDS, seed treatments are the primary defense, no effective rescue treatments.
- Rotate crops, improve field drainage, and reduce soil compaction.



Frogeye Leaf Spot:

Why it Matters: Frogeye Leaf Spot is one of the most important foliar diseases of soybean. Severe infections during pod fill can significantly reduce yield and seed quality.

What to look for:

- Circular to angular lesions with light gray or tan centers
- Distinct dark reddish-purple margins
- Lesions may merge together during severe infections

Favorable Conditions:

- Warm temperatures (77–86°F)
- Frequent rainfall and high humidity
- Dense canopies with extended leaf wetness

Management

- Rotate crops and select a fungicide that the disease is not resistant to.

Source: Frogeye Leaf Spot- Crop Protection Network

Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS):

Why it Matters: SDS is one of the most damaging soybean diseases in Indiana. Infection occurs early in the season, but symptoms typically appear after flowering, especially during reproductive growth.

What to look for:

- Yellow spots between leaf veins that turn brown
- Veins remain green while tissue between veins dies
- Root rot and reduced root mass
- Split stems are not brown as noted with brown stem rot
- Does not have red fungal structures near the soil surface like red crown rot

Favorable Conditions:

- Cool, wet soils shortly after planting
- Compacted or poorly drained fields
- Soybean cyst nematode (SCN) often increases disease severity

Management

- Like with Red Crown Rot, seed treatments are the primary defense, as there are no effective rescue treatments.
- Improve soil damage, and consider seed treatments in fields with a history of SDS.

Source: Sudden Death Syndrome- Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Septoria Brown Spot:

Why it Matters: Septoria Brown Spot is the most common soybean disease in Indiana. It usually causes minor yield loss but can reduce yields when it reaches the upper canopy during wet growing seasons.

What to look for:

- Small dark brown spots on lower leaves
- Yellowing of affected leaves
- Disease progresses upward through the canopy

Favorable Conditions:

- Frequent rainfall
- High humidity
- Warm temperatures

Management

- Manage residue, consider spraying a fungicide if disease reaches the upper canopy.

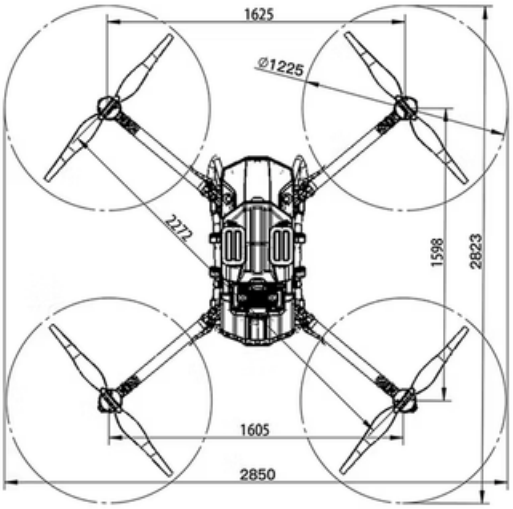
Source: Septoria Brown Spot- Crop Protection Network

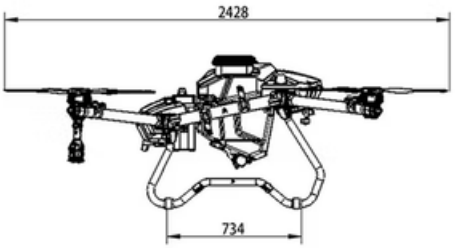
DRONE SPRAYING

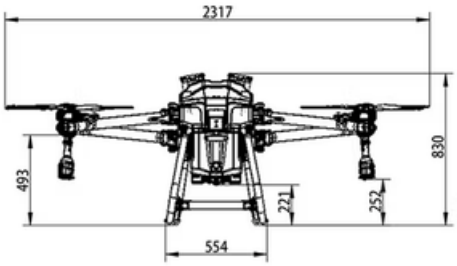
Drone application has become an increasingly valuable tool for crop protection, especially when field conditions limit access for traditional sprayers.

After heavy rains, in saturated soils, or when crops have reached later growth stages, drones can make timely applications without causing soil compaction or crop damage. They are particularly useful for spot treatments, smaller fields, and areas where ground equipment has difficulty operating.

For farmers, drone spraying offers another option for getting across acres when timing matters most. Whether it's making a fungicide application during a narrow disease-control window, treating isolated weed escapes, or responding quickly to an insect outbreak, drones can help prevent costly delays. While they aren't a replacement for traditional ground or aerial application in every situation, they provide flexibility that can protect yield potential and keep field operations moving when weather or field conditions create challenges.







If you have questions about whether drone application is the right fit for your operation or need help planning an application this season, don't hesitate to contact us. We're always happy to discuss your options and help you find the best solution for your fields.

Content Created by Jared Rea

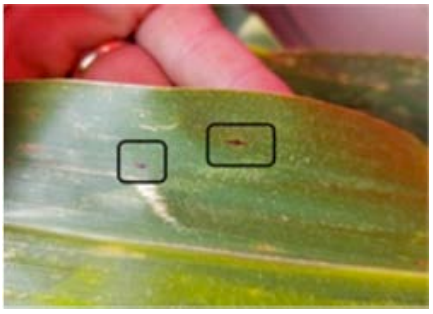
SO FAR, TAR SPOT IS SLOWLY BEING FOUND IN THE AREA, BUT CONDITIONS CAN CHANGE AT ANY TIME.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

01 Small, raised black spots (stromata) on corn leaves that resemble flecks of tar.

02 Spots cannot be rubbed off like insect frass or dirt.

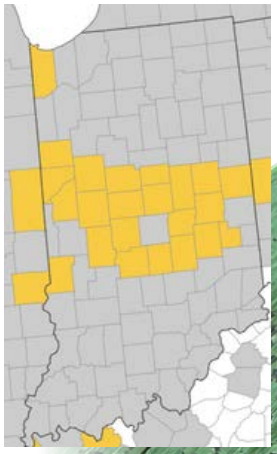
03 Initial infections are often found in the lower canopy before moving upward.



FUNGICIDE TIMING MATTERS

Research from Indiana indicates the best window for a single fungicide application is typically between VT (tasseling) and R3 (milk stage). Applications made too early may not provide season-long protection, while applications made after disease becomes established in the upper canopy often provide limited benefit.

Counties where Tar Spot has been found: Benton, Boone, Clinton, Delaware, Fayette, Fountain, Hamilton, Hancock, Henry, Johnson, Lake, Madison, Montgomery, Morgan, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, Shelby, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vigo, and Warren.



Scan for "Tar Spot of Corn Map"
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System by The University of Georgia - Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO:
Tyler Gabehart 317.656.0624

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Content organized by Connor Donsbach