



Frogeye Leaf Spot of Soybean

Frogeye leaf spot can infect leaves, stems, and pods of soybean. The development of frogeye leaf spot is favored by warm, humid weather. Young leaves are more susceptible to infection than older leaves.

What to Consider

Frogeye leaf spot primarily impacts soybean foliage, reducing photosynthetic area on infected leaves. Where numerous, frogeye leaf spot has the potential to significantly diminish soybean productivity and yield potential. Seed quality can also be reduced in cases where the pathogen infects pods and seeds.

Scouting

Lesions begin on the leaf surface as small (up to 1/4 inch), circular to irregularly shaped spots (Figure 1). Spot centers are lighter brown to gray with reddish-brown margins (Figure 2). Spots may coalesce to form larger, irregularly shaped spots. If spots cover more than 30% of the leaf surface, leaves may wither and drop prematurely. Lesions occurring on stems are less frequent, appearing red and darkening with age. Pod lesions, also less frequent, are circular to oblong reddish-brown, and somewhat sunken.

Management Options

Management is aimed at reducing the amount of inoculum available and protecting plants from infection. Burying infected residue can help reduce inoculum in the field. Rotating away from soybean for 2 to 3 years can also help reduce the risk for infection. Use of resistant soybean products can effectively manage the disease. For susceptible soybeans, a fungicide application at the R3 growth stage can help with control.



Figure 1. Soybean exhibiting symptoms of frogeye leaf spot.



Figure 2. Close-up view of frogeye leaf spot symptoms.

Sources: Westphal, A., Abney, T.S., and Shaner, G. 2006. Frogeye leaf spot. BP 131-W. Purdue University Botany and Plant Pathology. <http://www.btny.purdue.edu>.
Dorrance, A., and Mills, D. 2010. Frogeye leaf spot of soybean. AC-53-10. Ohio State Department of Plant Pathology. <http://ohioline.osu.edu>
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Websites verified 05/31/2018

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