

CCA CORNER

WITH JOE BUDREAU, CERTIFIED CROP ADVISOR



SUMMER DISEASE PRESSURE

WHAT YOU SHOULD BE SCOUTING FOR IN THE COMING WEEKS

JULY 17, 2019

When it comes to diseases this summer in your corn crop, a lot is going to depend on what your corn acres have gone through in the weeks leading up to now. Recently, I spoke to a grower who experienced significant flooding on his corn acres. To add insult to injury, rains coming in from Hurricane Barry are expected to dump even more water onto these already challenged corn acres. Factor in high heat and humidity and conditions are right for disease development.

So what can we do to stay two steps ahead of summer disease pressure? First and foremost, we have to do our scouting. Regular plant health checks will help you better understand the pressure your crop is under and can help you make more advantageous management decisions going forward.

Things to look for while you are scouting include:

Gray Leaf Spot--Look for rectangular lesions between the veins in the corn leaf. Lesions can range from brown to gray. GLS is worse in warm and humid conditions. If the disease spreads to the ear leaf and above, a fungicide application can protect yield.

White Mold in soybeans--Look for lesions of bleached plant tissue on lower stems. Symptoms appear a few weeks after flowering. Fungicide treatment at R1 growth stage can protect plant health.

If you have any questions about symptoms you're seeing in your fields, please give me a call at **1-866-400-9468**. I'll be happy to work with you on making a diagnosis.