Comparison of Calendar versus Threshold-Base Fungicide Applications for Management of Pod Rot.

T. A. WHEELER*
Texas AgriLife Research, Lubbock, TX 79403-6653

S. A. RUSSELL
Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Brownfield, TX 79316-4307

M. G. ANDERSON
Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Seminole, TX 79360-4341

J. E. WOODWARD
Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Lubbock, TX 79403-6653.

A comparison was made between applying fungicides on a calendar basis (without regard to pod rot level) or applying them based on a threshold of pod rot (1-2%=low, 3-4%=moderate, 5-6%=high). The tests were conducted at five sites. Pod rot during the season (based on weekly evaluations) was lower for the calendar treatments using Abound FL (average of 0.8%) than for all threshold based applications (average of 1.5, 2.3, and 1.6% for low, moderate, and high thresholds, respectively) or the nontreated check (average of 1.8%). There were no differences in peanut grade, % damaged kernels, or price/ton between the calendar and threshold based treatments. Yield was higher for the low threshold based treatment (5131 lbs/acre) than for the moderate (4764 lbs/acre) and high (4685 lbs/acre) threshold based treatments or the nontreated check (4729 lbs/acre). The low threshold treatment had similar yield to the calendar based treatments using only Abound FL (5000 lbs/acre). When the price/ton was used to calculate a value/acre for the peanuts, and then the fungicide costs were subtracted, there were no differences between any fungicide treatments and the nontreated check.