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SCN is the Most Damaging Soybean Pathogen in North America: Transcript

Waukesha, Wis. (November 10, 2020) – Media can use the following transcript to personalize the accompanying “SCN is the most damaging soybean pathogen” press release issued by The SCN Coalition.

The following quotes can be attributed to Iowa State University Nematologist Greg Tylka.

“We've done random surveys funded by the soybean checkoff in the mid-'90s, the mid-2000s, and then the middle of the past decade. And every time, we found about 70% of the fields in Iowa had soybean cyst nematode. Similar surveys had been done in Illinois that found SCN in about 80% of fields.”

“Anything that moves soil can move a nematode. And that's wind-blown soil and soil moved through surface erosion. That's soil on farm implements; on the tires of farm equipment. Even wildlife can spread it by eating grain after harvest and ingesting soil, flying off, and then a day later out the other end comes soil with live soybean cyst nematode in it.”

“I try to make farmers care about SCN by showing them it's hitting them in the pocketbook. An [experiment conducted](#) in southeast Iowa showed Peking out-yielded PI 88788 by an average of 21 bushels per acre. At \$9 soybeans, that's \$200 per acre. Farmers can be missing out on an opportunity and leaving money in the field if they aren't actively managing SCN, and rotating different sources of SCN resistance.”

The following quotes can be attributed to North Dakota State University Plant Pathologist Sam Markell.

“I certainly would anticipate that SCN is spread by flood water. In North Dakota, the Red River separates North Dakota and Minnesota, and it flows north to Canada. And in 2003, we found SCN for the first time in the southeastern most county on that river.”

“I can confidently say that without the free SCN soil testing program funded by the North Dakota soybean checkoff, in half of the counties that we know have SCN, we likely would not have known it's there. It's the growers that are sampling and getting those results back to start an active management plan. Without that information, we would be operating blind. And I think it's fairly conservative to say that it's saved growers in North Dakota millions of dollars every year because those that find SCN right away and progressively manage it are going to save money – not just one year, but many years to come.”

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