



PARTNERSHIP PERK

June 6, 2005

This message is the pilot of an idea for quick and direct communication about emerging issues between ISU Extension and research staff and our Corn and Soybean Initiative Partners. If you have questions or comments, contact your ISU partnership manager or email us directly at CSI@iastate.edu.

Soybean Aphids Reported in Iowa, June 2005.

Source: Matt O'Neal, Department of Entomology and
Brian Lang, ISU Field Specialist-Crops, Decorah

Although soybeans are just emerging, some soybean insect pests are now active. Many entomologists across the Midwest have begun their summer research on soybean aphid. One aspect of this research is intensive surveying of soybean and buckthorn, the aphid's overwintering host.

On June 1, ISU researchers found a soybean aphid (*Aphis glycines*) nymph on a VC-stage soybean plant the McNay Research Farm in Lucas County (after looking at over 500 plants). Several winged aphids were found that were not soybean aphids. Additionally, Brian Lang, a field crop specialist in northeast Iowa, found a couple small infestations in Fayette County. Early finds of aphids of similar numbers were also reported in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, and Illinois.

By comparison, in 2004 the first soybean aphid report in Iowa was on June 8th in Story County and populations did not increase there beyond 10 aphids per plant until July of that year.

Long story short: Soybean aphids have been found, but in very small numbers. And these early populations are dramatically variable. Remember, the mere presence of soybean aphids now **does not represent a prediction of risk** for later in the season! However, your clients might hear alarmist messages to the contrary. It is time to start looking, but not time to treat. We will continue to update these reports throughout the growing season.