SCN Continues to Spread in the U.S. and Canada

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AMES, Iowa - In 2020, plant health professionals in the U.S. and Canada were surveyed by Iowa State to identify counties infested with the soybean cyst nematode (SCN) since 2017. A similar survey was conducted in 2017 for the years 2014 to 2017. There were 55 new U.S. counties in 11 states and 24 counties and rural municipalities in Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec in which SCN was first discovered between 2017 and 2020. The results reveal steady expansion of SCN throughout the U.S. and Canada and underscore the need for scouting and soil sampling fields for detection of new SCN infestations.

Greg Tylka and Christopher Marett, plant pathology, Iowa State University, conducted the survey and recently published the results in Plant Health Progress.

Known distribution of SCN, in counties and rural municipalities in the U.S. and Canada in 2020. Newly infested areas are shown in blue; areas infested in 2017 or before are in red.

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