

## **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of the Northern Regional Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) Tests is to evaluate the best experimental SCN resistant soybean lines developed by public researchers in the U. S. and Canada and to provide soybean breeders with a source of genetically diverse germplasm for continued progress in the release of well adapted, SCN resistant breeding lines and varieties. Participants are encouraged to exchange germplasm within the legal guidelines pertaining to transgenic strains.

Experimental strains are evaluated in Preliminary Tests grown at a limited number of locations for one year before they are entered in Uniform Tests. Uniform Tests are grown at more locations with more replications than Preliminary Tests.

## **POLICY ON EVALUATION AND RELEASE OF STRAINS**

### **Qualifications for inclusion in the Northern Regional SCN Tests**

- 1) Participants must be willing and able to conduct separate tests for conventional strains and strains containing proprietary and/or transgenic traits. However, all participants are not required to evaluate both; and, placement of entries in tests depends on whether the entries are transgenic or non-transgenic.
- 2) Participants are individually responsible to ensure that any proprietary and/or transgenic strains that they submit are approved for human consumption and are cleared for sale as commodity seed.
- 3) Participants must disclose pedigrees to the Uniform Test Coordinator for publication with performance data in Uniform Soybean Test Report unless contract arrangements prohibit disclosure of information.
- 4) It is recommended that breeders obtain written permission for the use of privately developed varieties or strains as parents in the development of lines included in the Uniform Tests.

### **Use of Northern Regional SCN Test Entries in Soybean Breeding and Research**

- 1) Seed of Uniform test entries is for evaluation in the Uniform tests only and may not be distributed to non-participants of these tests without prior approval by the originator of the entry.
- 2) Uniform Test participants must obtain written approval before using any entry, other than their own, in any breeding or genetic studies, or for any other research.
- 3) Experimental strains entered in the Uniform Tests should be labeled "Experimental Strain" and should not be identified by strain designation when grown in demonstration plots or when the Uniform Tests are shown on field days or farm tours.
- 4) Seed of any transgenic entry must not be used for further evaluation without written permission from the originator of the entry, and must be discarded at the end of the season, except for crossing purposes, subject to the restrictions outlined in the preceding section two.

### **Release of Northern Regional SCN Test Entries**

- 1) Entries in the Northern Regional SCN Tests are released according to the policies and procedures of the originating institution.
- 2) Restricted or contractual releases cannot impose any restriction on the prior use of an entry as a parent by SCN Test Participants.

## METHODS

Regional SCN Uniform Tests and Preliminary Tests are planted in multiple-row plots with the center rows used for data collection and harvested for yield. Plots in the Uniform Tests are generally replicated three times while plots in the Preliminary Tests are generally replicated twice. The coefficient of variability (CV) is reported for replicated data at each location. Yield data with a CV value of greater than 15 is generally not included in the test means.

**Descriptive Code** is abbreviated as underlined below.

Flower color: Purple, White, M indicates mixed flower color

Pubescence color: Tawny, Gray, Light tawny, M indicates mixed pubescence color

Hilum color: black, imp~~er~~fect black, brown, buff, gray, yellow

**Previous testing** is the number of previous years in the same SCN Uniform Test or a reference to the previous year's test, abbreviated to SCN PIII for SCN Preliminary Test III, for example.

**Yield** is measured after the seeds have been dried to a uniform moisture content and is recorded in bushels (60 pounds) per acre.

**Maturity** is the date when 95% of the pods have ripened. Delayed leaf drop and green stems are not considered in assigning maturity. Maturity is expressed as days earlier (-) or later (+) than the reference variety.

**Height** is the average length in inches from the ground to the tip of the main stem at maturity.

**Lodging** is rated at maturity according to the following scores:

1 = Almost all plants erect.

2 = All plants leaning slightly or a few plants down.

3 = All plants leaning moderately (45 degrees), or 25 to 0% of the plants down.

4 = All plants leaning considerably, or 50 to 80% of the plants down.

5 = Almost all plants down.

**Seed quality** is rated according to the following scores considering the amount and degree of wrinkling, defective seed coat (growth cracks), greenishness, and moldy or rotten seeds. Threshing or handling damage is not included, nor is mottling or other pigment.

1 = Very good    2 = Good    3 = Fair    4 = Poor    5 = Very poor

**Seed size** is recorded in grams per 100 seeds based on a 100 or 200 seed sample.

**Seed Composition** is measured on samples submitted to the University of Minnesota. A 25-gram sample of clean seed is prepared by taking an equal volume or weight of seed from each replication. Protein and oil content is measured on these samples using infrared reflectance and is reported as dry-weight percentage values. The values listed in this report have been converted to a 13% moisture basis.

**Shattering** is scored at a specified time after maturity and is based on estimates of the percent of open pods as follows:

- 1 no shattering
- 2 1 to 10% shattered
- 3 10 to 25% shattered
- 4 25 to 50% shattered
- 5 over 50% shattered

**Minnesota Iron Chlorosis scores (IDC)** Scores are the mean of 2 reps and 2 observation and are based on the amount and severity of chlorosis (leaf yellowing). Scale; 1 = no chlorosis to 5 = severe chlorosis, leaf necrosis and possibly plant death. Data was collected from Lake Lillian and Wilkin Co. Minnesota.

**Green Stem** is a rating of delayed green stem at time of plant maturity (R8 = 95% of the pods have reached mature pod color). The condition is rated according to the following scores.

- 1 = almost all plant stems yellowing or have ripened, as indicated by their mature stem color.
- 2 = 1 - 10% plants with green stems
- 3 = 11 - 25% plants with green stems
- 4 = 26 - 50% plants with green stems
- 5 = > 50% plants with green stems.

**Missouri Frogeye Leaf Spot (FELS)** was rated by Dr. Allen Wrather at Portageville, MO on a 0 to 9 scale with 0=no frogeye and 9=severe.

**Missouri Rootknot Nematode (RKNT)** was rated on 2 reps on a 1 to 5 scale with 1=no galls and 5=severe galls at 2 locations in plantings behind potatoes near Bertrand, MO.

**Nebraska Gall Midge** scores were based on the average visual observation of two reps using a 1 to 9 scale where 1=10% infection, 2=20% infection, etc.

