

Cook County Peanut White Mold Fungicide Trial

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White Mold (WM), (*Sclerotium rolfsii*) is one of the most destructive diseases in peanut production in Georgia. The University of Georgia's latest annual publication "2016 Plant Disease Loss Estimates" determined that the disease reduced Georgia's peanut crop value by 7.5%, (the total value of the crop was \$624.4 million according to 2016 Georgia Farm Gate Value report). Growers have many peanut fungicide options available, each with varying costs and WM efficacy ratings. In 2019, Cook County Extension collaborated with University of Georgia Peanut Specialists to install a 31 acre field trial in Cook County, Georgia to compare and evaluate nine common peanut WM fungicide programs with the objective to generate unbiased, research based data related to peanut WM fungicide programs to disseminate to peanut producers and agriculture industry via the County Delivery System from which to base peanut WM control strategies. WM fungicides used in protocol were Muscle ADV (*tebuconazole, chlorothalonil*), Priaxor Xemium (*fluxapyroxad, pyraclostrobin*), Provost Silver (*prothioconazole, tebuconazole*), Fontelis (*penthiopyrad*), Elatus (*azoxystrobin, benzovendiflupyr*), Umbra (*flutolanil, flutriafol*) and Convoy (*flutolanil*). All programs showed significantly less WM compared to the control.

Programs applying Excalia, Fontelis, Umbra and Elatus (2 block) treatments showed greatest control of the disease during field ratings. Those same programs (with the exception of the Fontelis program) in addition to the 2 block Convoy program also showed greatest yields compared to the control. Leafspot and tomato spotted wilt virus in this trial was insignificant.