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The Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council recently funded a Soybean Cyst Nematode project with the University of MN Extension aimed at educating farmers about the yield impact of SCN. Soybean cyst nematode (SCN), a small soil-borne worm, is the most yield limiting soybean pathogen in Minnesota. SCN is responsible for an estimated 100 million bushel annual yield loss in NC states.

The project also included surveying SCN invasions in the most newly infested northwest counties in Minnesota. Extension personnel presented information on SCN to more than 1300 farmers and agribusiness employees throughout the duration of the project.

Results of the project found that of those submitting samples, 44% respondents have never participated in a SCN-related program. A total of 363 soil samples were submitted to the lab in 2018 with 50.4% of the samples testing positive for SCN. Of the samples testing positive, 44.8% had SCN egg densities at a level at which some yield loss could be sustained even when a SCN resistant soybean variety is planted. More than six percent of those samples testing positive had densities so high, the threat to soybean yield was so great that planting soybeans was not recommended. Survey respondents indicated that as a result of this project:

- 47% plan to plant an SCN-resistant soybean variety
- 29% plan to plant a crop that is not a host of SCN
- 91% are either likely or extremely likely to continue to periodically collect samples to monitor populations