

The SCN Coalition: Economics and Advancing Management

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Principal Investigator

Samuel Markell, North Dakota State University

Co-Principal Investigators

Gregory Tylka, Iowa State University Rodrigo Onofre, Kansas State University George Bird, Michigan State University Marisol Quintanilla, Michigan State University Guiping Yan, North Dakota State University Alyssa Collins, Pennsylvania State University Paul Esker, Pennsylvania State University Darcy Telenko, Purdue University Febina Mathew, North Dakota State University Jason Bond, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Horacio Lopez-Nicora, Ohio State University Nathan Schroeder, University of Illinois Seth Naeve, University of Minnesota Jefferson Barizon, University of Missouri Mandy Bish, University of Missouri Dylan Mangel, University of Nebraska Tamra Jackson-Ziems, University of Nebraska Shawn Conley, University of Wisconsin Ann MacGuidwin, University of Wisconsin Damon Smith, University of Wisconsin

Overview of Project Objectives

This project will build on The SCN Coalition success, focusing on the economics and research advances in SCN management. The Coalition will include other economically important nematodes, such as the root-knot nematode, and other soybean diseases exacerbated by SCN. This expansion is consistent with the National Soybean Nematode Strategic Plan. Objectives include maintaining and recruiting industry partners; management of the Coalition including training, educational materials development, and meeting facilitation; and the continuation of communication with media, farmers and partners.

Key Results

The team developed and launched the new SCN Profit Checker, which is a tool to help growers understand the economic impact of SCN on their farm. The team anticipates SCN sample increases in member states as a result of the tool and the four videos that promoted the SCN Profit Checker. Establishment of National Nematode Day (October 2, 2023) was fully supported by private sector partners. In partnership with the American Phytopathological Society, The SCN Coalition organized a National Soybean Nematode Conference in Savannah, GA, held December 14-16, 2022. News releases were distributed generating 3.8 million potential online ag media impressions, 1,567,469 impressions on X (Twitter), 2,877,584 impressions on Facebook, and 459,540 impressions on LinkedIn. There was an increase in new visitors to www.TheSCNCoalition.com, with 55,260 total new users in FY23. The SCN Coalition's SCN Root Check Sponsored by Valent USA (FY2022 output) won a first-place award at the regional NAMA awards ceremony, and was the recipient of the merit award (second place) at the national award ceremony.

Benefit to Farmers

The soybean cyst nematode remains the most important, economically limiting threat to soybean growers in the North Central region. The SCN crisis that growers face is two-fold: the effectiveness of the PI 88788 resistance is being reduced as the nematode adapts, and relatively low grower awareness of the situation. Over the last six years, The SCN Coalition has moved the needle on active management, saving growers millions of dollars in economic loss. Using conservative estimates, the economics of the increase in active management is estimated at more than \$100 million gains annually for U.S. soybean growers. Private and public sectors are making significant research advancements, and growers need to know of these advances to adopt as they become available and economically benefit from their usage.

Links

The SCN Coalition: Economics and Advancing Management USB National Soybean Checkoff Research Database