

FINAL REPORT

Establishment of an early warning system for
soybean rust
M141/62

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Abstract

Due to the destructive nature of soybean rust and an apparent lack of adequate resistance to soybean rust, an effective disease management system is required until resistant cultivars become available. Disease scouting for as early as possible detection of the pathogen where the crop is grown is an important key to an effective management programme. Since the 2005/06 season the ARC-Grain Crops Institute (ARC-GCI) together with the Protein Research Foundation (PRF) and other co-workers such as PANNAR, the department of agriculture of KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) and a number of soybean producers, have attempted to create a soybean-rust-early-warning system that is based on trap-crop trials, also referred to as indicator plots. Data generated by this study contributed to the confirmation of a general seasonal trend of soybean rust movement from east to west in all soybean productions in South Africa. A screening protocol was also established that will be used for the monitoring of soybean rust development in future.

Keywords: soybean rust, trap crops