

Evaluation of the fungicides Omega and Endura for management of Sclerotinia blight of peanut in Gaines County, Texas, 2008

**Jason Woodward (Plant Pathologist), Terry Wheeler (Research Plant Pathologist),
Todd Baughman (Extension Agronomist), Mitchell Ratliff (Technician), and Ira Yates
(Technician)**

Cooperator: Gary Jackson

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Plot size: 2-rows by 50 feet, four to five replications
 Cultivar: Flavorranner 458
 Treatments: Non-treated control, Omega 1.0 pt/A, Omega 1.5 pt/A, and Endura 10 oz/A (prior to symptoms), and Omega 1.5 pt/A, and Endura 10 oz/A (after symptoms)
 Applications dates: Calendar applications (prior): 9-July and 7-Aug
 After symptom development: 21-July and 18-Aug
 Planted: 29-Arp
 Harvested: 22-Oct

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Sclerotinia blight pressure was high during the 2008 growing season, with initial symptoms being observed in mid to late July. The application of fungicides lead to a reduction in disease when compared to the non-treated control (Table 1). Overall, Omega provided better Sclerotinia control than Endura, and increased disease control was achieved when applications were made prior to seeing symptoms of Sclerotinia blight. No differences in yield were observed among the fungicide programs evaluated; however, when averaged across fungicide treatment pod yields were increased by 1541 lb/A. No differences in peanut quality were observed among treatments. Results from this study illustrate the importance of using fungicides in the management of Sclerotinia blight. Additional studies focusing on application timing for improving Sclerotinia control are also being conducted in Gaines County.

Table 1. Effect of Omega and Endura application on Sclerotinia blight, yield, and grade of peanut in Gaines County, TX, 2008

Treatment ^a	Sclerotinia blight (%) ^b			Pod yield (lb/A)	Grade (%smk+ss)
	6-Aug	3-Sept	1-Oct		
1. Non-treated	12.0 a ^c	28.8 a ^c	46.0 a ^c	2692 b ^c	75.4
2.Omega (1.0 pt/A; prior)	3.0 e	8.0 d	17.4 b	4493 a	74.7
3.Omega (1.5 pt/A; prior)	4.0 de	7.8 d	17.6 b	4234 a	73.7
4.Endura (10 oz/A; prior)	7.0 bc	12.8 cd	20.8 b	4312 a	74.4
5.Omega (1.5 pt/A; after)	6.0 cd	19.2 bc	16.5 b	4257 a	73.7
6.Endura (10 oz/A; after)	9.0 b	23.8 ab	22.0 b	3871 a	73.2
LSD ($P \leq 0.05$)	2.8	9.2	10.9	760	ns

^a Applications were made prior to or after the onset of disease. ^b Percent of row feet showing signs or symptoms of *S. minor* just before to digging. ^c Means within a column followed by the same letter are not significantly different.