Evaluation of Two Soybean Cultivars and Aldicarb Treatment in Soil Infested with Plant-parasitic Nematodes¹

D. W. DICKSON AND R. McSorley²

Abstract: The soybean cultivars Davis and Leflore were grown in a northern Florida experimental site infested with eight species of plant-parasitic nematodes. *Meloidogyne incognita* appeared to become the predominant pathogen, suppressing Davis soybean yield regardless of aldicarb treatment. Soybean yields of Leflore were 1.4-fold to 3.5-fold greater than yields of Davis, but aldicarb did not affect yields of either cultivar. Davis soybean yield was negatively correlated with the at-plant density of *M. incognita*, whereas Leflore seed yield was not negatively correlated with any nematode.

Key words: aldicarb, control, Glycine max, Heterodera glycines, Meloidogyne incognita, nematicide, nematode, root-knot nematode, soybean, soybean cyst nematode.

In the southeastern United States, many soybean fields contain a polyspecific community of plant-parasitic nematodes (2,11,13,14). A few of these species, namely *Heterodera glycines* and *Meloidogyne* spp., severely damage soybean either singly (4,16) or in combination (15,16). The role of other soybean-parasitic nematodes has been studied less intensively, either singly or in combination (16).

Resistant soybean cultivars are major management tools against H. glycines and M. incognita (5-8). Aldicarb at low dosages is also a management option for use with susceptible, resistant, or tolerant cultivars (12). Our objective was to evaluate aldicarb at relatively low dosages and compare its efficacy to that of the soybean cvs. Leflore (resistant to H. glycines and resistant or partially resistant to M. incognita; 8) and Davis (susceptible to H. glycines and M. incognita; 6) in a field infested with several species of plant-parasitic nematodes.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experiment was conducted in 1990 at the University of Florida agronomy farm

located in Alachua County, Florida. The site, which had a history of soybean (Glycine max (L.) Merr.) yield suppressed, was infested with Belonolaimus longicaudatus Rau, Criconemella spp., Helicotylenchus dihystera (Cobb) Sher, H. glycines Ichinohe race 3, Meloidogyne incognita (Kofoid & White) Chitwood, Paratrichodorus minor (Colbran) Siddiqi, Pratylenchus brachyurus (Godfrey) Filipjev & Schuurmans Stekhoven, and a Xiphinema sp. similar to X. floridae Lamberti & Bleve-Zacheo. In the previous fall, the site was planted in rye (Secale cereale L. cv. Wrens Abruzzi). The soil was an Arredondo fine sand (91% sand, 4.5% silt, 4.5% clay; 1.8% organic matter; pH 5.7). The field design was a 2×4 factorial (2) cultivars \times 4 nematicide treatments) arranged in a randomized complete block with six replicates. Each plot consisted of two rows, 9.1 m long and 0.9 m apart.

The field was cross-disked and deepplowed 30 April, and 95 kg P_2O_5 /ha was applied broadcast 18 May and disk incorporated. Cultural practices and control of weeds and insects were as recommended for the area (1). Rainfall (75.3 cm) exceeded normal (69.4 cm) during the experimental period, and the longest drought period (days with zero soil water) was 6 days recorded 12–17 June.

Aldicarb was applied at planting in an 18-cm band at rates of 11 g a.i./100 m or 8.4 g a.i./100 m or in furrow at 5.6 g a.i./ 100 m. A Gandy (Owatonna, MN) applicator was used with the row bander placed directly in front of the planter opening disk

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² Professors, Department of Entomology and Nematology, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611-0740.

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and the planter shoe. Soybean cvs. Leflore and Davis were planted 21–22 May.

Soil samples to estimate nematode population densities were taken 0-15 cm deep at planting (Pi), near midseason (Pm; 16 July), and at harvest (Pf; 11 October). A sample consisted of a composite of 12 2.5-cm-d cores taken through the root zone of random plants in the two-row plots. Samples were mixed thoroughly, stored in plastic bags at 10 C, and processed by sugar flotation-centrifugation (9) within 5 days after sampling.

The plots were hand harvested 11 October, and seed yields were reported at 9%moisture. Data were subjected to analysis of variance for a factorial design. Correlation coefficients (r) were calculated between densities of different nematode species.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The experimental site was infested with eight species of plant-parasitic nematodes. Of theses, the population densities of *B.* longicaudatus, *H. dihystera*, and Xiphinema sp. were widely distributed and very low, with mean Pf over all plots of 2, 8, and $0.1/100 \text{ cm}^3$ soil, respectively. Thus, they were not considered as factors affecting soybean yield and provided insufficient data for further analysis.

The initial population densities of the five remaining nematode species were relatively low (Table 1). The Pm of H. glycines and *M. incognita* were lower ($P \le 0.01$) in Leflore plots than in Davis plots. The reverse was true for *P*. brachyurus ($P \le 0.05$). Cultivar affected ($P \le 0.05$) the final population densities of Criconemella spp., P. minor, and P. brachyurus. Densities of Criconemella spp. and P. minor were lower in Leflore plots than in Davis plots, whereas the reverse was true for *P. brachyurus*. The final population densities of H. glycines remained relatively low (28/100 cm³ soil among all plots), whereas M. incognita increased to relatively high numbers (562/ 100 cm³ soil among all plots). No differences ($P \leq 0.05$) were observed between

population densities of *M. incognita* in Leflore or Davis plots at harvest.

Meloidogyne incognita greatly suppressed Davis soybean yield regardless of the aldicarb treatment (Table 1). There was a negative correlation ($r = -0.487, P \le 0.05$) between the Pi of *M. incognita* and the yield of Davis; whereas the correlation for Leflore was not significant (Table 2). The development of root-knot disease on Davis was rapid and severe. Plants were severely stunted, and many died.

The Pf of H. glycines on Leflore and Davis at harvest was relatively low. The correlations between the Pi of H. glycines and yields of Leflore and Davis were positive (r = 0.457 and 0.428, respectively, Table)2). An interaction of H. glycines and M. incognita on growth and yield of soybean has been shown (15), but whether the effect was additive depended on their Pi. In a microplot study, H. glycines caused a greater suppression of Davis soybean yield than M. incognita, even when the Pi of M. incognita was 1.5 times greater (4). However, in our field test the Pi of M. incognita was ca. 3.0 times greater than the Pi of H. glycines. The relatively low Pf of H. glycines on Leflore and Davis soybean may have resulted from the lack of feeding sites (the roots were heavily infected with root-knot nematodes). Another factor may have been a fungal antagonist that appears to attack eggs within the cysts. The isolation and identification of this fungus are underway. Our experimental site may be suppressive to H. glycines.

We suggest that the positive correlations of the Pi of P. minor and P. brachyurus with yields of Leflore (r = 0.536 and 0.526, respectively) and Davis (r = 0.412 and r =0.623, respectively) were artifacts, possibly related to the negative correlations of the Pi of these two species with the Pi of M. incognita (r = -0.328 and -0.330, respectively, Table 2). There was a strong effect of the plot location on the densities of each nematode species at all three sampling dates ($P \le 0.05$). Location effects were also strongly associated with yield ($P \le 0.01$), and this association was probably a result

			Nematodes/100 cm ³ soil													
Seed Treatment (application rate yield		Criconemella spp.†			H. glycines		M. incognita		P. minor			P. brachyurus				
Treatment (application rate in g a.i./100 m, and method)	(g/plot)	Pi	Pm	Pf	Pi	Pm	Pf	Pi	Pm	Pf	Pi	Pm	Pf	Pi	Pm	Pf
						I	eflore									
Aldicarb (11, 18-cm band)	975	7	4	5	1	0	30	3	6	545	14	50	1	10	2	52
Aldicarb (8.4, 18-cm band)	840	8	9	3	2	1	40	7	7	603	11	60	0	20	3	137
Aldicarb (5.6, in-furrow)	946	3	2	3	2	1	38	2	9	397	17	58	1	15	6	203
Untreated	736	6	1	3	2	1	24	2	132	850	16	84	2	14	5	172
Mean (over all Leflore plots)	874	6.0	4.0	3.5	1.8	0.8	33	3.5	38.5	599	14.5	63	1.0	14.8	4.0	141
							Davis									
Aldicarb (11, 18-cm band)	282	10	6	14	1	3	22	5	10	466	12	86	65	5	0	31
Aldicarb (8.4, 18-cm band)	331	15	2	28	1	10	24	4	29	723	12	71	87	11	0	33
Aldicarb (5.6, in-furrow)	689	6	1	3	2	11	29	5	41	476	19	70	111	14	1	60
Untreated	287	3	9	40	2	6	16	4	220	437	9	72	60	6	7	23
Mean (over all Davis plots)	397	8.5	4.5	21.3	1.5	7.5	22.8	4.5	75	526	13	74.8	80.8	9.0	2.0	36.8
				Sig	nificant	effects fi	rom anal	ysis of v	ariance‡							
Cultivar	***	ns	ns	*	ns	***	ns	, ns	**	ns	ns	ns	***	ns	*	*
Nematicide	*	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	***	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns
Replication	***	***	***	***	***	*	***	***	***	***	**	ns	**	***	***	***
Cultivar × nematicide	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns	ns

TABLE 1. Yield of soybean and mean numbers of Criconemella spp., Heterodera glycines, Meloidogyne incognita, Paratrichodorus minor, and Pratylenchus brachyurus on three sampling dates as affected by cultivar and aldicarb treatment.

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Data are means of six replications. Sampling dates were 21 May (Pi), 21 July (Pm), and 11 October (Pf). † Mixture of *C. ornata* and *C. sphaerocephala.* ‡ *, **, *** indicate significant effects at $P \leq 0.05$, 0.01, and 0.001, respectively. ns = not significant.

Nematode	Leflore yield	Davis yield	Pi of M. incognita		
Criconemella spp. [†]	-0.233	-0.001	0.034		
Heterodera glycines	0.457*	0.428*	0.027		
Meloidogyne incognita	0.210	-0.487*	1.000**		
Paratrichodorus minor	0.536**	0.412*	-0.328*		
Pratylenchus brachyurus	0.526**	0.623**	-0.330*		

TABLE 2. Correlation coefficients (r) between initial densities of each of five plant-parasitic nematodes and final yield of Leflore and Davis soybean and initial density of *Meloidogyne incognita*.

Correlations were calculated over log-transformed nematode densities from 24 plots (22 df) for each soybean yield and over 48 plots (46 df) for initial *M. incognita* densities (Pi).

† Mixture of C. ornata and C. sphaerocephala.

*, ** indicate significant r at $P \leq 0.05$ and $P \leq 0.01$, respectively.

of irregular dispersion of *M. incognita* over the field.

Leflore seed yields were 1.4-fold to 3.5fold greater than yields for Davis. There was no consistent effect of aldicarb treatments on seed yield of either Leflore or Davis soybean. Because the Pf of *M. incognita* on Leflore was similar to that on Davis (Table 1), while the yield of Leflore was unaffected by the Pi of *M. incognita* (Table 2), we conclude that this cultivar was tolerant (3) to this nematode. Leflore was reported as resistant or moderately resistant to *M. incognita* (8).

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