

C

**TITLE:** Best Management Strategies for Sclerotinia Blight Using Chemical, Biological, and Genetic Inputs

**DEPARTMENTS:** Crop Science, Plant Pathology, and Entomology

**LEADERS:** David Jordan, Jack Bailey, Barbara Shew, Tom Isleib, and Rick Brandenburg

Research was continued at one location in the winter of 2002 to evaluate the influence of the biological control agent Contans and fungicide programs on Sclerotinia Blight incidence in peanut. The study involves long-term rotation crop rotation with Contans applied for multiple years. The peanut crop was planted in early May 2003. Disease incidence will be recorded from July through October 2003 to determine the efficacy of Contans. Disease incidence and peanut yield from studies in 2002 suggest that Contans can reduce disease but may not have a major effect on yield. Cultivar selection and application of the fungicide Omega 500 (fluazinam) appear to be more important in minimizing the effects of this disease on peanut and maintaining peanut yield. Funds during this period of time have been used to cover the salary, tuition, and fringe benefits for the graduate student working on this project.

NC 1 final  
2002