

## MANAGING PEANUT ROOTWORM

### *Peanut Rootworm Advisory: What's the risk of SCR in your fields?*

**Table 5-3. One-minute SCR Field Index Score**

<b>Soil texture</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Score</b>
Loamy sand	5	_____
Fine -sandy loam	10	_____
Loam	15	_____
<b>Drainage class</b>		
Well drained	5	_____
Moderately well drained	10	_____
Somewhat poorly drained	15	_____
Poorly drained	20	_____
<b>Field history of rootworm damage</b>		
None	0	_____
Low	5	_____
Moderate	10	_____
High	15	_____
<b>Planting date</b>		
Before April 25	5	_____
April 25-May 15	10	_____
After May15	15	_____
<b>Cultivar resistance</b>		
NC 6	5	_____
VA 98R, Wilson, and Champs	10	_____
NC 7, 9, 10C, V-11, 12C, Gregory, Perry, Phillips, and Brantley	20	_____
<b>Total score</b>		

**70 or above      High Risk      Treatment Needed**

Treat high-risk fields with rootworm insecticides from about June 20 to July 10. All irrigated fields should be treated.

**55 to 65      Moderate Risk      May Not Need Treatment**

Treatment decisions for moderate-score fields depend on additional factors such as weather and land-lease requirements. In many moderate-score fields, especially those at the low end of the range, rootworm damage does not reach economically damaging levels. In most years, these fields will not need treatment. In most years, pod damage in moderate-risk fields is more likely, so that treatment, even in late July, may still provide protection from severe pod losses.

**50 or less      Low Risk      No treatment needed**

***Irrigation or wet weather may make rootworm problems worse. Always treat irrigated fields.***

**Can You Count on the SCR Advisory?**

The SCR advisory was tested on 436 commercial peanut fields in Virginia and North Carolina from 1989-2002. Farmers who followed the recommendations of the advisory were protected 96.5% of the time. 3.5% of the fields examined had damage above the SCR threshold.

**Was the SCR Advisory Index tested near you?**

The SCR Index was tested on farmer fields in these North Carolina counties: Bertie, Bladen, Chowan, Edgecombe, Gates, Halifax, Martin, Northampton, Perquimans, and Pitt. It was also tested in the following Virginia locations: Dinwiddie, Greensville, Isle of Wight, Prince George, Southampton, Suffolk, Surry, and Sussex.

**What are the keys to fields with low scores?**

- **Resistant cultivars.** NC6 provides good rootworm resistance and greatly reduces risk to pod damage. The early-maturing pods of VA 98R are not as susceptible to rootworm attack during the peak pest pressure in late July and early August.
- **Good drainage and sandy soils.** SCR larvae prefer moist soils. Irrigation, high loam content, and poor drainage increase the risk of damage. **Always treat irrigated fields.**
- **Early planting.** Early planting reduces risk because pods tend to mature before rootworm feeding.
- **Known history.** Base your estimate on experience in previous years with damage levels in areas of the field not treated with insecticide. If fields have always been treated, estimate a moderate level of damage.

**For more information about the SCR Advisory, contact your county Extension agent or look online at:**

**<http://www.isis.vt.edu/cgi-bin/scrRisk>**