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## Soybean Producers Find Useful Information at [www.planthealth.info](http://www.planthealth.info)

Soybean producers, agronomists and crop specialists have discovered the wealth of information available to them on the checkoff-funded Web site [www.planthealth.info](http://www.planthealth.info). Over 26,000 people visited the site last August; a month when soybean producers are most concerned about diseases affecting grain fill. That translates to over 800 people a day who logged on to access the plethora of information.

The Web site is maintained by the North Central Soybean Research Program with checkoff dollars from 12 states.

“We needed to find an economical way to get the results of our checkoff-funded research to producers throughout the Midwest,” says NCSRP President Greg Fujan from Westin, Neb. “Printed material is good, but it is very expensive to produce, and the information can be outdated in a matter of months. By utilizing the flexibility of the Web site, we can spread producers’ checkoff dollars a lot further.”

Users have been most interested in soybean aphids and Asian rust. Forty percent of those accessing the site downloaded information from those areas. The Web site is

### Fact sheets and management recommendations are available for:

- Bean leaf beetle
- Bean pod mottle virus
- Brown stem rot
- Charcoal rot
- Green stem syndrome
- Iron deficiency chlorosis
- Phytophthora root rot
- Soybean aphids
- Soybean cyst nematode
- Sudden death syndrome
- Soybean mosaic virus
- Soybean rust
- Soybean stem borer
- White mold

one of the best sources of information for these two problems because of the amount of checkoff dollars invested in research programs.

Site content isn’t limited to just insects and pests. It contains information producers can use throughout the year to improve their soybean production practices, such as the use of aerial photography and satellite imagery to scout for problem



areas and pests such as SCN. State soybean yield trail results are also very popular for on-line users. Multi-state yield trial results are posted on the Web site very quickly after the university releases them, enabling producers to evaluate performance before they make their seed buying decisions.

Also on the site is information on how to clean up yield monitor data. Farmers have a lot of tools at their disposal; the challenge has been to find a way to use them to generate more profit. The tools available on the PHI site are designed to enable the user to better understand the technology available to them.

Got a weed or disease you can’t identify? The [planthealth.info](http://www.planthealth.info) Web site has tools to enable the user to quickly identify the problem, and provides current science-based management recommendations. Users can also evaluate management recommendations from several states with the easy-to-use links to all Midwest universities, and enables them to easily contact their local Extension specialist.

If you haven’t visited the [planthealth.info](http://www.planthealth.info) Web site in a while, or if you are a new reader of this column, log on today. You’ll like what you find.