

# Moving fast on soybean aphid

By Gregg Fujan  
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Courtesy of David Ragsdale, U. of Minn.

One of the highlights of the North Central Soybean Research Program (NCSRP) is its ability to move quickly. When we recognize a problem, we don't spend a lot of time with politics and process. We move fast, make decisions, line up researchers and try to solve the problem.

Soybean aphid is no exception. As soon as we recognized that soybean aphids were going to cause real problems for soybean producers in the Upper Midwest – we moved.

We pooled funds from 12 state soybean checkoff boards, and lined up the best and brightest scientists from all the U.S. universities. We have the top men and women throughout the country on the research team, and it's already paying dividends.

Thanks to checkoff funds from soybean growers, entomologists and plant pathologists already are establishing treatment thresholds, studying management controls, looking at environmental conditions and running insecticide trials.

They're also working on longer-term strategies, such as germplasm screening for genetic resistance and introducing natural biological controls.

NCSRP-funded researchers are working on short- and long-term solutions, and they're finding answers soybean growers need to manage and control soybean aphid. As a Nebraska soybean producer – who expects to see soybean aphid in 2004 – I believe this is an excellent use of checkoff funds.



Courtesy of David Ragsdale, U. of Minn.

Visit [www.planthealth.info](http://www.planthealth.info) for more information about soybean aphids – and many other topics of interest to soybean growers. From diagnosing plant and pest symptoms to identifying weed seedlings, [www.planthealth.info](http://www.planthealth.info) connects you with the information you need and the people who can help. Launched in 1999, [www.planthealth.info](http://www.planthealth.info) is part of the NCSRP's Plant Health Initiative.



*The North Central Soybean Research Program (NCSRP) is comprised of state soybean checkoff boards in Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.*

*Established in 1992 to coordinate soybean production research efforts on a regional level, NCSRP invests soybean checkoff funds in research programs to better understand and manage soybean pests and diseases.*

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