Soybean Cyst Nematode Levels in NW MN.

**Objective:** Assess SCN infestation levels on a broader scale with field level information in NW MN.

**Results:** Surveys for SCN have been valuable at the county level for documenting expansion of the pest's range. The program has been successful in raising grower awareness in the region. We would like to obtain more field level data from growers. We proposed offering some free sample opportunities at field days with the stipulation that UMN Ext also receive a copy of the SCN counts along with a geo-reference (e.g., latitude-longitude, Township-Range-Section).

During soybean field days held the last week of August, sample kits consisting of 5 soil bags, instructions for collecting SCN soil sample, cover letter for enclosing with samples so the lab would know which project to assign samples, and educational materials (SCN Management Guide and hand lens) were distributed to growers. Growers then voluntarily collected and submitted the samples. The growers received their results directly from the lab; the geo-reference point and scn counts were sent to UMN Extension. A summary of the project was presented at the Prairie Grains Conference, Grand Forks, ND, December 13, 2012 and numerous crop meetings during the winter of 2012-2013.

A total of approx. 1,000 soil bags (200 kits) were distributed. A total of 330 samples were received and processed for SCN counts. Figure 1 shows samples mapped across the survey area. All counties in NW MN had at least one (1) positive sample identified. Infestation levels were greater in the southern range of the survey where SCN has been confirmed since 2000. Twenty-eight percent of the samples were positive for SCN. The range of values reported was <50 to 39,000 eggs/100cc of soil. This information confirms the need to monitor SCN in all areas to identify infested fields prior to seriously large populations developing undetected.