8/20/2014,
I observed aphids on buckthorn at the U of M, Southwest Research and Outreach Center, Lamberton, MN.

Alates and 1st stage nymphs were easy to find but had not been present for more than a day or two. Syrphid fly (hover fly) adults had found these aphid colonies as well. Soybean populations on soybean have started to decline in some, but not all, fields here and the movement to buckthorn may be a reason.

I also readily found numerous aphids on buckthorn in New Ulm, MN so this movement to buckthorn is not limited to the local SWROC geography.

This movement is earlier than I expected based on weather. It is not known what percent of the soybean aphid population on soybean will move now versus later. I will try to see if I can find a correlation with moisture stress or soybean maturity.

I would still treat fields at threshold but pay attention to colonies where most nymphs have wing pads (use a hand lens). If you can handle the logistics, you may want to give these a few days to see if the winged aphids leave the field.

Many other aphid species are producing winged forms to move to the primary host now.

8/21/2014
There was a link problem for some of you in the Forages newsletter I forwarded yesterday. This link should work: [http://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/forages/newsletter/docs/FQ-AUG-2014-Vol-3-No-1.pdf](http://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/forages/newsletter/docs/FQ-AUG-2014-Vol-3-No-1.pdf).

A quick survey of soybeans at the University of Minnesota Southwest Research and Outreach Center (SWROC) revealed great variability in soybean aphid populations. Not all aphids have headed to buckthorn. Full maturity and later planted soybeans, in general, have the most aphids now and nymphs are still being produced. Each field is different!

Don't quit scouting too early. If you have questions on when to stop using the 250 aphid/plant threshold - see the video at the [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VidX3KZEPnI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VidX3KZEPnI). The growth stage stuff is at the end.

Recent rainfall in many areas will help finish the corn and soybean crops. Wind damage and hail has occurred on some unfortunate fields. The recent rains and wind will help show any corn rootworm problems.

There are a few pockets of spider mite problems. Cool weather will slow, but not stop, these. If you apply a pesticide to control insects or mites, check the field in 3-5 days to check performance. Switch insecticide classes if you need to re-treat a field. Please let myself or Bob Koch, U of M Extension soybean entomologist, know of any insecticide performance issues for soybean aphids or mites.

Unless accompanied by high winds, hail or a flood, rainfall event will not eliminate an aphid or spider mite problem.

Prolonged cool, wet weather can produce population-crashing disease in aphids and mites. Heavy dews can be as effective as rain.

Watch for areas of the field where the tops of soybeans turn yellow after a rain. Check these areas for SCN.

We are starting to see a few green stinkbug nymphs in soybeans but I have not heard of any high levels.

I will be scouting for soybean aphids along the east slope of the Rockies for a few days and will have only sporadic email and phone access.

Happy trails.

Bruce