For more than 20 years, greater than 95 percent of all SCN-resistant soybean varieties have included resistance from the PI 88788 breeding line. Research shows yield loss as SCN populations increase on varieties with the PI 88788 resistance source. This data is from 25 years of variety trial experiments in farmers’ fields in Iowa.

The Reproductive Factor (RF) is the end-of-season number of SCN eggs divided by the beginning-season number of eggs. An RF of 2 means SCN egg numbers doubled from spring to fall. An RF of 4 means egg numbers quadrupled. The last data point on the far right in the graph has an RF of almost 40 (a fortyfold increase).

Nematodes are becoming “resistant to the resistance.”

A resistant variety should allow less than 10 percent reproduction. In other words, a resistant variety should stop 90 percent of the SCN in a field from reproducing. Across the region, varieties with PI 88788 resistance aren’t hitting the mark. On some farms, one out of every two nematodes can reproduce.

AS SCN REPRODUCTION INCREASES, yields decrease by as much as 14 bushels per acre.

Each data point represents the MEAN yield of all resistant varieties with PI 88788 in a variety trial field experiment.

Yield (bu/acre) of varieties with PI 88788

SCN Reproductive Factor (Pf/Pi)

Research shows yield loss as SCN populations increase on varieties with the PI 88788 resistance source. This data is from 25 years of variety trial experiments in farmers’ fields in Iowa.

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NEW SCN MANAGEMENT recommendations.

- Test your fields to know your numbers.
- Rotate resistant varieties.*
- Rotate to non-host crops.
- Consider using a nematode-protectant seed treatment.

Visit TheSCNcoalition.com for more information.

* SCN populations can adapt to individual resistant varieties as well as to sources of resistance such as PI 88788 and Peking. So, rotating to a different resistant variety — even if it’s still PI 88788 — may help slow the buildup of SCN populations.