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Reaction of soybean genotypes to foliar diseases with and without fungicide application

Reação de genótipos de soja a doenças foliares com e sem aplicação de fungicida

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Abstract

The classical genetic improvement aims to select, mainly, cultivars with greater yield potentials; however, by associating the selection for disease resistance, it is possible to handle the management with cost reduction. The objective of this study was to evaluate the reaction of soybean genotypes to foliar diseases, and the agronomic characteristics of the soybean crop, with and without fungicide application. Two experiments were conducted concomitantly, in the same design and with the same managements, distinguishing with respect to the presence and absence of chemical treatment to control diseases. The experiments were conducted in Rio Verde, Goiás, in the 2015/2016 harvest, in a randomized complete block design with 31 soybean genotypes and three replicates. The plot consisted of 2 rows of 5 m in length, spaced 0.5 m apart. The following were evaluated: downy mildew severity, Asian rust, target spot, and end-of-cycle diseases (EOCD's), besides agronomic characteristics such as defoliation, thousand grain weight, and grain yield. For target spot and EOCD's, genotypes with lower susceptibility to diseases were observed. Regarding downy mildew and Asian rust, the genotypes have been shown to be susceptible, and chemical control was the most effective in the management of these pathogens. There was a significant interaction for thousand grain weight and grain yield, which implies that there is a distinct behavior of the genotypes regarding the presence and absence of diseases. The presence of diseases affected all the characteristics significantly, however, some genotypes stood out in both experiments, not presenting a significant reduction in grain yield when predisposed to the incidence of foliar diseases, consolidating effective control through genetic resistance.

Additional keywords: chemical control; genetic breeding; genetic resistance; *Glycine max*.

Resumo

O melhoramento genético clássico visa a selecionar, principalmente, cultivares com maiores potenciais produtivos; entretanto, associando a seleção para resistência a doenças, pode-se viabilizar o manejo com redução de custo. O objetivo deste estudo foi avaliar a reação de genótipos de soja a doenças foliares e as características agrônômicas da cultura da soja, com e sem aplicação de fungicidas. Foram conduzidos dois experimentos concomitantemente, no mesmo delineamento e com os mesmos tratamentos, distinguindo com relação à presença e à ausência de manejo químico para controle de doenças. Os experimentos foram conduzidos em Rio Verde, Goiás, na safra de 2015/2016, no delineamento experimental de blocos ao acaso, com 31 genótipos de soja e três repetições. A parcela foi constituída de 2 linhas de 5 m de comprimento, espaçadas entre si por 0,5 m. Avaliaram-se a severidade de míldio, a ferrugem-asiática, a mancha-alvo e as doenças de final de ciclo (DFC's), além das características agrônômicas, como desfolha, peso de mil grãos e produtividade de grãos. Para mancha-alvo e DFCs, observaram-se genótipos com menor suscetibilidade às doenças. Em relação a míldio e ferrugem asiática, os genótipos demonstraram ser suscetíveis, e o controle químico, mais eficaz no manejo destes patógenos. Ocorreu interação significativa para peso de mil grãos e produtividade de grãos, o que implica haver comportamento distinto dos genótipos entre presença e ausência de doenças. A presença de doenças afetou significativamente todas as características; todavia, alguns genótipos destacaram-se em ambos os experimentos, não apresentando redução significativa da produtividade de grãos quando predispostos à incidência de doenças foliares, consolidando o controle efetivo através da resistência genética.

Palavras-chave adicionais: controle químico; *Glycine max*; melhoramento genético; resistência genética.

Introduction

The soybean crop [*Glycine max* (L.) Merrill] represents one of the main segments of the agribusiness sector in Brazil, being cultivated throughout the country. With a production of approximately 113 million tons, this oilseed reaches approximately 58% of the total area planted in Brazil (CONAB, 2017).

One of the major factors limiting the achievement of high yields in soybean crops is the presence of diseases. Among them, stand out foliar diseases caused by fungi, which directly affect the number of pods per plant and the grain weight, since they provide a reduction of the photosynthetically active area and cause the early senescence of leaves, shortening the crop cycle (Yorinori et al., 2005). In addition to Asian rust (*Phakopsora pachyrhizi* Sydow & Sydow), other fungal diseases such as downy mildew (*Peronospora manshurica* (Naumov) Syd.), septoriosiis (*Septoria glycines* Hemmi), Cercospora leaf blight (*Cercospora kikuchii* (Matsu. & Tomoyasu)), and target spot (*Corynespora cassicola* (Berky & Curt) Wei) are important because their occurrence is more frequent, causing considerable economic damage (Amorin et al., 2016).

The disease control has required a combination of practices, associating the cultural, chemical, and genetic management, which aim to minimize yield losses, providing economic viability to the crop. Among the control methods, the chemical, through fungicides, has been the most used, since there is a reduction of the pathogen inoculum, of the sporulation suppression, and of the dispersion of spores in the field. Notwithstanding, the most effective, practical, and economical method of control is the use of varieties that are resistant or have some degree of resistance to diseases (Galli et al., 2007). Due to the variability of the pathogens, the development of resistant strains should be performed for each specific region, as this may be variable according to the edaphoclimatic conditions (Juliatti et al., 2003).

The objective of this work was to evaluate the reaction of soybean genotypes to foliar diseases, and their influence on the agronomic characteristics of the soybean crop, with and without fungicide application, in the region of Rio Verde, Goiás.

Two concurrent experiments were established, in the same design and with the same managements, distinguishing in relation to the presence and absence of chemical treatment for disease control, in the 2015/2016 harvest, in Rio Verde, Goiás (17°46'56.32" S, 50°59'53.26" W, 763 m altitude). According to Köppen-Geiger (1936), Rio Verde is classified as Aw, tropical climate with dry winter season (June to August). The soil in the area was classified as clayey (48.1% clay, 36.4% sand, and 15.5% silt). Fertilization was carried out according to the crop requirements, after previous soil chemical analysis.

Both experiments were conducted in a randomized complete block design with 31 soybean gen-

otypes and three replicates. Each plot consisted of 2 rows of 5 m in length, spaced 0.5 m apart. The 31 genotypes are from the breeding program of the company Caraíba Genética, being 30 experimental strains and one cultivar (CG 8166RR), which notably present variability in the reaction to main foliar diseases: CG12-1616R98rr, CG12-1616R2rr, CG12-1615R64rr, CG12-1538R18rr, CG56-4626C, CG07-1261B05, CG08-1443B01-01, CG08-1391B12-01, CG07-1257B02-01, CG08-1443B01-02, CG08-1391B12-02, CG07-1257B02-02, CG07-1310B102, CG08-1410B20, CG08-1394B02, CG07-1317B05, CG06-1010B09-01, CG07-1292B505, CG07-1262B101, CG08-1411B02, CG08-1396B02, CG07-1313B106, CG08-1400B785, CG07-1315B102, CG07-1297B574, CG56-7720C, CG06-1010B09-02, CG06-1020B05, CG08-1387B12, CG12-1539R3rr, and CG 8166RR. A row was sown between the plots with the soybean cultivar CG 8166RR, which is known to be more susceptible to foliar diseases, as a source of inoculum.

The sowing was done manually in previously opened furrows, which were fertilized with a sowing-fertilizer machine used for no-tillage on November 14, 2015. In the experiment submitted to the chemical treatment for disease control, three applications of the fungicide trifloxystrobin + prothioconazole were performed in the doses of 70 + 60 g a.i. ha⁻¹, respectively, with the addition of mineral oil (Aureo) at a dose of 0.25% v/v. The first application was performed at the beginning of flowering (R1 stage); the second, at the R4 stage; and the third, at the R5.4 stage. The other cultural practices, such as pest and weed management, were carried out in both experiments, following the technical recommendations for the crop and according to the need verified in periodic surveys. In the complementation of weed control, a mechanical weeding was performed.

The diseases occurred by natural infection in the field and were evaluated weekly, based on notes made by two independent evaluators. Downy mildew severity was evaluated based on the diagrammatic scale of Kowata (2008). The evaluation of target spot severity was performed according to the diagrammatic scale of Soares (2009). In the evaluation of Asian rust severity, the diagrammatic scale of Canteri & Godoy (2003) was used. Regarding end-of-cycle diseases (EOCD's), both for septoriosiis and Cercospora leaf blight, the severities were evaluated based on the diagrammatic scale of Martins et al. (2004).

From the severity data, the area under the disease progress curve (AUDPC) for all diseases was calculated using the formula proposed by Shaner & Finnley (1977): $AUDPC = \sum (y_i + y_{i+1}) / 2 * (t_{i+1} - t_i)$, where y_i and y_{i+1} are the severity values observed in two consecutive evaluations, and $t_{i+1} - t_i$ represents the interval between two evaluations.

The evaluations of the agronomic characteristics of the soybean strains were performed from the observation of the plot, namely: defoliation - evaluation of defoliation caused by infestation of foliar diseases,

based on the diagrammatic scale of Hirano et al. (2010), performed at 15 days after the third application of the fungicide, for the two experiments; thousand grain weight - through counting and weighing, with the weight being corrected to 13% moisture; grain yield - obtained from the harvest of the plants in the plot, and later tracking and weighing of the grains, with the values being converted to kg ha⁻¹ and corrected to 13% moisture.

The data were submitted to individual statistical analysis; identifying the homogeneity of residual variances by the Hartley test (Ramalho et al., 2005), joint variance analysis was used. For the effect of genotypes, the Scott-Knott means comparison test was used at 5% probability. All analyses were performed using the GENES software (Cruz, 2006).

Results and discussions

The influence of the chemical treatment with fungicides was significant in all variables, however, there was a significant interaction between genotypes and managements only for target spot and end-of-cycle diseases (EOCD's). The results suggest that the genotypes behaved non-coincidentally in the absence and presence of chemical treatment with fungicides, evidencing the most expressive influence of the chemical control for disease suppression in the genotypes that presented higher AUDPC means, that is, with higher levels of disease severity (Table 1). In general, for genotypes with lower mean AUDPC values in the untreated test, the reduction in severity levels with chemical control was not significant, highlighting the importance of the association of genetic resistance with other techniques for greater efficacy in reducing the severity of foliar diseases.

It was observed that in the test without fungicides, regarding target spot, 19 genotypes had significantly lower AUDPC than the others, with means varying between 6.0 (CG08-1443B01-01 and CG08-1396B02) and 30.0 (CG12-1615R64rr); the other 12 genotypes with higher AUDPC ranged between 34.5 (CG07-1297B574 and CG07-1297B574) and 66.0 (CG07-1292B505). Thus, the occurrence of genetic variability is suggested as to the reaction of the genotypes to target spot. For the test with fungicide application, the soybean genotypes did not differ significantly from each other, with AUDPC values varying from 3.2 to 22.4 (Table 1).

The influence of chemical treatment was evident in 9 genotypes, for which a significant difference was observed between the managements, with and without fungicide. The chemical control provided a reduction of 69.7%, 66.7%, 73.6%, 63.3%, 81.9%, 73.0%, 76.3%, 61.4%, and 79.7% in genotypes CG12-1538R18rr, CG07-1261B05, CG08-1410B20, CG07-1317B05, CG07-1292B05, CG07-1262B101, CG07-1313B106, CG07-1315B102, and CG56-7720C, respectively. It is possible to emphasize that the influence of the chemical control was observed in the gen-

otypes that presented high AUDPC means, whereas in the genotypes with relatively low means of the infection of the pathogen, no significant reduction was observed with the fungicide application, which suggests a greater efficacy in reducing the severity of the disease, associating the use of genotypes that are more resistant to chemical control (Table 1).

Miguel-Wruck et al. (2011) identified soybean strains that were more resistant to target spot in the state of Mato Grosso; the cultivars Anta 82 RR, M-SOY 7908 RR, and BRS Valiosa RR behaved as resistant to target spot, presenting a severity lower than 3%. According to the classification of resistance to target spot presented by Embrapa Soja (2014), only 4 cultivars are classified as resistant, and another 11 cultivars as moderately resistant. However, target spot resistant cultivars comprise less than 1% of the commercial cultivars, evidencing the importance of the chemical control of this disease.

In the end-of-cycle diseases evaluated in the experiment without treatment, there was a significant difference between the evaluated genotypes. Nineteen strains stood out with significantly lower means than the others, with AUDPC between 147.7 (CG12-1539R3rr) and 231.1 (CG56-4626C) (Table 1). The 12 genotypes with higher mean AUDPC values varied from 257.2 (CG07-1257B02-02) to 396.9 (CG12-1616R2rr). The soybean genotypes did not differ significantly from each other, with AUDPC values varying from 106.0 (CG12-1538R18rr) to 232.0 (CG07-1310B102). Analyzing the AUDPC results of the EOCD's in the experiment with fungicide application, the soybean genotypes did not differ significantly from each other, with AUDPC values ranging from 106.0 (CG12-1538R18rr) to 232.0 (CG07-1310B102). It should be noted that the chemical treatment provided a reduction in the severity of the pathogen so that it was not possible to observe significant variations due to the low mean AUDPC values obtained in all genotypes (Table 1).

The different reactions of the genotypes to end-of-cycle diseases were also observed by Rampazzo & Blum (2014), when evaluating soybean cultivars in the presence of *Septoria glycines*, and by Kudo & Blum (2011), when evaluating *Cercospora foliar blight* in 86 conventional and 30 transgenic genotypes.

Fifteen genotypes stood out, differing significantly between the different treatments, with disease reduction between 32.0% (CG07-1310B102) and 60.7% (CG12-1615R64rr). It is noteworthy that these genotypes are among those with high AUDPC values. Notwithstanding, it was evidenced that some genotypes that did not differ significantly between the treatments, which demonstrated low AUDPC values in the experiment without fungicide application, may be associated with greater genetic resistance.

For downy mildew and Asian rust, a non-significant effect of the interaction genotype x fungicide was observed, that is, the behavior of the genotypes

was similar regardless of the treatment. It should be noted that, for Asian rust, all genotypes presented similar levels of severity, however, disease management with fungicide application provided a significant reduction in the AUDPC (Table 2).

Observing the AUDPC means for downy mildew, regardless of the treatment used, it was found that 6 strains (CG56-4626C, CG06-1020B05, CG08-1394B02, CG08-1410B20, CG07-1315B102, and CG08-1411B02) and the standard cultivar CG 8166RR were grouped with lower AUDPC, varying between

8.93 and 33.10. The strain CG12-1616R2rr had a higher AUDPC value, with a mean of 200.23 (Table 2). This shows that there is genetic variability regarding the reaction of the genotypes to this pathogen, being possible to distinguish between the evaluated ones, in which those with lower levels of severity can contribute to the management of this disease. The results confirm genetic variability for the reaction to this pathogen, which was also observed by Polizel et al. (2013), when evaluating the downy mildew AUDPC in soybean strains and cultivars.

Table 1 - Area under progression curve the target spot and end-of-cycle diseases (ECDs) in 31 soybean genotypes, without fungicide application (WF) and fungicide application (FA) and summary of variance analysis.

Genotypes	Target spot		ECDs	
	WF	FA	WF	FA
CG12-1616R98rr	35.7 bA	15.3 aA	301.5 bB	155.8 aA
CG12-1616R2rr	28.5 aA	12.8 aA	396.9 bB	182.3 aA
CG12-1615R64rr	30.0 aA	9.0 aA	308.4 bB	121.1 aA
CG12-1538R18rr	39.7 bB	12.0 aA	215.3 aB	106.0 aA
CG56-4626C	19.5 aA	6.0 aA	231.1 aB	127.5 aA
CG07-1261B05	36.0 bB	12.0 aA	284.0 bB	143.9 aA
CG08-1443B01-01	6.0 aA	10.5 aA	149.4 aA	165.0 aA
CG08-1391B12-01	12.0 aA	18.0 aA	222.1 aA	211.6 aA
CG07-1257B02-01	22.5 aA	7.5 aA	285.1 bB	176.6 aA
CG08-1443B01-02	20.0 aA	9.3 aA	167.8 aA	161.7 aA
CG08-1391B12-02	15.0 aA	10.5 aA	192.5 aA	161.7 aA
CG07-1257B02-02	16.5 aA	6.8 aA	257.2 bB	163.3 aA
CG07-1310B102	24.7 aA	22.4 aA	341.3 bB	232.0 aA
CG08-1410B20	41.5 bB	11.0 aA	216.4 aA	145.0 aA
CG08-1394B02	12.3 aA	7.5 aA	175.8 aA	172.7 aA
CG07-1317B05	52.7 bB	19.3 aA	311.0 bB	167.3 aA
CG06-1010B09-01	21.5 aA	6.0 aA	155.5 aA	118.1 aA
CG07-1292B505	66.0 bB	11.9 aA	230.6 aB	138.2 aA
CG07-1262B101	35.2 bB	9.5 aA	208.0 aA	152.3 aA
CG08-1411B02	20.0 aA	11.3 aA	217.7 aA	144.7 aA
CG08-1396B02	6.0 aA	7.5 aA	221.8 aA	166.6 aA
CG07-1313B106	47.5 bB	11.3 aA	292.7 bB	194.9 aA
CG08-1400B785	10.5 aA	7.5 aA	225.3 aA	162.8 aA
CG07-1315B102	52.5 bB	20.3 aA	310.8 bB	208.9 aA
CG07-1297B574	34.5 bA	13.8 aA	165.8 aA	167.8 aA
CG56-7720C	48.0 bB	9.8 aA	222.7 aA	159.1 aA
CG06-1010B09-02	22.5 aA	13.5 aA	172.6 aA	127.2 aA
CG06-1020B05	34.5 bA	18.8 aA	284.8 bB	166.5 aA
CG08-1387B12	9.0 aA	6.8 aA	258.9 bB	168.4 aA
CG12-1539R3rr	20.0 aA	9.8 aA	147.7 aA	137.1 aA
CG 8166RR	12.0 aA	3.2 aA	227.6 aA	155.8 aA
Mean	27.5	11.31	238.66	160.1
Causes of variation	Mean squares			
Genotype (G)	483.67 **		8943.38 **	
Management (M)	12169.46 **		287317.44 **	
G x M	288.17 *		4584.20 *	

Means of genotypes followed by the same lowercase letters and means of fungicide management with upper case letters do not differ significantly by the Scott Knott test ($P > 0,05\%$). *, ** significant at 5% and 1% of probability, respectively, by the mean squares. ^{ns} not significant.

Table 2 - Area under the progression curve of mildew and Asian rust in 31 soybean genotypes without fungicide application (WF) and with application of fungicide (FA) of fungicide and summary of variance analysis.

Genotypes	Mildew		Mean	Asian rust		Mean
	WF	FA		WF	FA	
CG12-1616R98rr	93.3	67.8	80.5 c	380.0	17.3	198.6 a
CG12-1616R2rr	22.0	178.5	200.2 e	406.0	28.0	217.0 a
CG12-1615R64rr	62.8	45.3	54.0 b	271.6	15.0	143.3 a
CG12-1538R18rr	45.3	35.8	40.5 b	389.0	16.6	202.8 a
CG56-4626C	12.5	5.3	8.9 a	544.3	29.3	286.8 a
CG07-1261B05	40.5	58.9	49.7 b	396.6	19.6	208.1 a
CG08-1443B01-01	41.0	52.0	46.5 b	337.0	25.0	181.0 a
CG08-1391B12-01	81.3	49.0	65.1 b	299.3	29.3	164.3 a
CG07-1257B02-01	121.0	82.1	102.0 c	351.0	14.6	182.8 a
CG08-1443B01-02	59.0	59.4	59.2 b	323.3	23.6	173.5 a
CG08-1391B12-02	93.0	94.7	93.8 c	322.0	43.3	182.6 a
CG07-1257B02-02	102.4	104.3	103.3 c	242.3	13.6	128.0 a
CG07-1310B102	118.1	86.7	102.4 c	427.3	28.6	228.0 a
CG08-1410B20	35.5	23.3	29.4 a	392.0	31.3	211.6 a
CG08-1394B02	27.93	21.7	24.8 a	352.6	29.0	190.8 a
CG07-1317B05	188.0	104.3	146.1 d	360.0	31.6	195.8 a
CG06-1010B09-01	82.0	43.6	62.7 b	397.0	17.3	207.1 a
CG07-1292B505	89.2	49.4	69.3 b	403.3	19.6	211.5 a
CG07-1262B101	69.5	26.7	48.1 b	442.0	19.3	230.6 a
CG08-1411B02	37.6	28.6	33.1 a	335.3	66.3	200.8 a
CG08-1396B02	113.4	76.2	94.8 c	428.6	30.3	229.5 a
CG07-1313B106	84.7	86.2	85.4 c	373.0	35.6	204.3 a
CG08-1400B785	63.8	58.3	61.0 b	303.6	20.0	161.8 a
CG07-1315B102	30.9	30.9	30.9 a	463.0	60.6	261.8 a
CG07-1297B574	80.0	45.0	62.5 b	276.3	113.3	194.8 a
CG56-7720C	42.0	43.2	42.6 b	380.0	57.6	218.8 a
CG06-1010B09-02	71.7	44.3	58.0 b	274.6	13.6	144.1 a
CG06-1020B05	21.0	23.2	22.1 a	440.0	37.0	238.5 a
CG08-1387B12	131.9	97.7	114.8 c	264.3	41.6	153.0 a
CG12-1539R3rr	106.5	71.6	89.0 c	309.6	28.0	168.8 a
CG 8166RR	14.0	6.3	10.1 a	254.3	17.3	135.8 a
Mean	76.8 B	58.1 A		359.3 B	31.4 A	
Causes of variation	Mean Squares					
Genotype (G)	9923.01 **			7833.42 ^{ns}		
Management (M)	16369.23 **			5000360.26 **		
G x M	706.87 ^{ns}			8031.41 ^{ns}		

Means of genotypes followed by the same lowercase letters and means of fungicide management with upper case letters do not differ significantly by the Scott Knott test ($P>0,05\%$). *, ** significant at 5% and 1% of probability, respectively, by the mean squares. ^{ns} not significant.

In general, the results suggest that there is a significant effect of the fungicide application regardless of the genotype, which led to a reduction in the mean AUDPC of downy mildew from 76.8 in the experiment without fungicide application to 58.1 in the experiment with fungicide application. The low efficacy of the fungicide trifloxystrobin (EQIs - external quinone inhibitors) + prothioconazole (DMIs - demethylation inhibitors) should be highlighted, of only 24.4% for downy mildew control. It is important to note that this fungicide is not recommended for the control of this disease; hence, it is necessary to seek other alternatives of active ingredients for the management.

Regarding the AUDPC for Asian rust, the 31 soybean genotypes did not differ significantly from each other, evidencing the limitation of obtaining genotypes resistant to this disease. The AUDPC values varied from 128.0 (CG07-1257B02-02) to 286.83 (CG56-4626C); however, because there was no significant difference between the genotypes, it is suggested that there is uniformity in their reaction to Asian rust (Table 2). Nonetheless, the reaction of the genotypes to Asian rust showed similar behavior, that is, coincidence, with and without fungicide application.

Fungicide control provided a significant reduction in the AUDPC for Asian rust, from 359.35 to 31.43, representing a 91.25% reduction in the severity of this pathogen. This suggests that among the evaluated genotypes, the most effective method in the management of this disease is the application of fungicides, and that there was no contribution of the genetic aspect in reducing the severity. On the other hand, Azevedo (2007), when evaluating 50 soybean genotypes in the Cerrado region, observed a significant variation in the reaction to this pathogen. The cultivars Emgopa 313 and Monsoy 8211 showed a lower average number of pustules per cm², lower severity, and lower values of area under the disease progression curve.

Regarding the agronomic characteristics, 13 genotypes stood out in the defoliation percentage, with averages varying between 53.3% (CG 8166RR) and 71.7% (CG07-1261B05) (Table 3). In this way, it is possible to distinguish some genotypes with a greater capacity to tolerate the pathogen infection, or even providing the maintenance of a larger leaf area due to their greater genetic resistance, which can contribute to an increase in grain yield. It is observed that there was a significant reduction in the defoliation percentage, from 83.1% in the test without fungicide application to 64.2% in the test with fungicide application. In general, the phytosanitary management influenced positively, regardless of the genotype, in the maintenance of leaf area until the physiological maturation stage. Defoliation caused by foliar diseases affects the photosynthetic activity of the plant, causing direct losses in grain yield.

It can be observed that in the experiment with-

out fungicide application, 8 genotypes presented a thousand grain weight significantly higher than the others, with averages varying between 149.3 g (CG07-1292B505) and 161.7 g (CG07-1261B05). In the test in which fungicide application was carried out, 7 genotypes stood out in relation to the others, with thousand grain weight averages between 160.6 g (CG08-1394B02) and 173.6 g (CG07-1261B05). It is noteworthy that only 10 genotypes presented a significant increase in the thousand grain weight with the chemical control of the diseases, highlighting that most of these genotypes presented high mean AUDPC values (Table 3).

In the test without fungicide application, strains CG08-1391B12-02 and CG07-1257B02-02 stood out, showing higher grain yield means, with values of 3600 and 3808 kg ha⁻¹, respectively (Table 3). It should be taken into account that these strains showed lower AUDPC means, since even with disease incidence, they presented high grain yield. The genotype CG08-1391B12-02 is highlighted, also with lower defoliation averages, which may have contributed to the expression of its genetic potential. Moreover, the strain CG07-1313B106 stood out in the test with fungicide application, showing higher grain yield, yielding an average of 4291 kg ha⁻¹, followed by 16 genotypes with yields between 3330 and 3885 kg ha⁻¹. This genotype showed low grain yield in the test without fungicide application, however, in the absence of foliar diseases, it can express its genetic potential. It is important to highlight the genotype CG08-1391B12-02 that, in general, stood out in both tests, suggesting that, when using genetic resistance in disease management, it is possible to reduce costs with phytosanitary control, applying fungicides only when necessary.

Regarding the influence in the evaluated genotypes, with and without fungicide application, it was verified that 17 genotypes presented a significant difference between treatments, with an increase in grain yield when submitted to disease control, ranging from 666 kg ha⁻¹ (CG07-1315B102) to 1838 kg ha⁻¹ (CG07-1313B106). The other strains showed similar grain yield, both in the test with and without chemical treatment, which can be explained by their tolerance to pathogen infection.

Carniel et al. (2014) evaluated the reaction of four RR soybean cultivars to EOCD's, with and without fungicide application, and found that one cultivar showed similar yield with and without fungicide, and that the use of soybean cultivars with high resistance to EOCD's allows to reduce the dependence of fungicides to obtain high grain yields. Finoto et al. (2011) point out that the control of EOCD's provided an increase in grain yield, with the best results being obtained with fungicide application at the R5 or R5.5 stage. Foliar diseases are known to decrease the leaf life span, reducing the net photosynthesis and grain yield of the soybean crop (Godoy & Canteri, 2004).

Table 3 - Defoliation percentage (DEF), thousand grain weight (TGW) and grain yield (YIELD) of 31 soybean genotypes without fungicide application (WF) and fungicide application (FA) and summary of variance analysis.

Genotypes	DEF (%)		Mean	TGW (g)		YIELD (kg ha ⁻¹)	
	WF	FA		WF	FA	WF	FA
CG12-1616R98rr	91.7	90.0	90.8 b	157.7 aA	161.6 aA	2612 cA	3131 cA
CG12-1616R2rr	80.0	88.3	84.2 b	160.9 aA	163.6 aA	2688 cA	3138 cA
CG12-1615R64rr	96.7	85.0	90.8 b	143.2 bA	143.9 bA	2772 cB	3582 bA
CG12-1538R18rr	71.7	53.3	62.5 a	136.5 bA	135.5 cA	2662 cA	2973 cA
CG56-4626C	98.3	55.0	76.7 b	131.1 cB	145.6 bA	2417 cB	3189 cA
CG07-1261B05	80.0	63.3	71.7 a	161.7 aB	173.6 aA	2906 bA	2988 cA
CG08-1443B01-01	78.3	43.3	60.8 a	106.4 dB	125.0 dA	2213 dA	3858 bB
CG08-1391B12-01	86.7	70.0	78.3 b	128.4 cB	147.7 bA	2596 cA	3110 cA
CG07-1257B02-01	93.3	75.0	84.2 b	150.5 aA	147.8 bA	2926 bA	3330 bA
CG08-1443B01-02	70.0	53.3	61.7 a	116.6 dA	117.0 dA	2212 dB	3655 bA
CG08-1391B12-02	63.3	68.3	65.8 a	141.1 bA	148.0 bA	3808 aA	3805 bA
CG07-1257B02-02	88.3	73.3	80.8 b	153.6 aA	149.8 bA	3600 aA	3183 cA
CG07-1310B102	96.7	80.0	88.3 b	123.1 dA	128.1 cA	3024 bA	2825 cA
CG08-1410B20	80.0	85.0	82.5 b	127.6 cA	131.0 cA	2071 dA	2037 dA
CG08-1394B02	88.3	68.3	78.3 b	139.9 bB	160.6 aA	2586 cB	3786 bA
CG07-1317B05	96.7	76.7	86.7 b	152.9 aB	166.9 aA	2469 cB	3824 bA
CG06-1010B09-01	65.0	43.3	54.2 a	98.4 eA	106.7 eA	2744 cB	3463 bA
CG07-1292B505	93.3	70.0	81.7 b	149.3 aA	144.3 bA	2688 cB	3435 bA
CG07-1262B101	85.0	46.7	65.8 a	144.6 bA	133.8 cB	2715 cA	3164 cA
CG08-1411B02	88.3	66.7	77.5 b	156.2 aA	155.3 bA	2115 dB	3209 cA
CG08-1396B02	91.7	63.3	77.5 b	155.3 aB	170.4 aA	2907 bB	3885 bA
CG07-1313B106	90.0	76.7	83.3 b	144.0 bA	139.9 bA	2453 cB	4291 aA
CG08-1400B785	90.0	73.3	81.7 b	126.1 cA	130.1 cA	2710 cB	3499 bA
CG07-1315B102	88.3	71.7	80.0 b	134.1 cA	142.9 bA	2563 cB	3230 cA
CG07-1297B574	63.3	46.7	55.0 a	102.3 eA	103.3 eA	3019 bB	3814 bA
CG56-7720C	76.7	60.0	68.3 a	116.7 dB	132.1 cA	3088 bA	3237 cA
CG06-1010B09-02	66.7	40.0	53.3 a	97.4 eA	102.0 eA	2637 cB	3807 bA
CG06-1020B05	78.3	63.3	70.8 a	131.1 cA	131.8 cA	3228 bA	3743 bA
CG08-1387B12	90.0	61.7	75.8 b	110.8 dA	117.8 dA	2284 dB	3463 bA
CG12-1539R3rr	75.0	46.7	60.8 a	85.8 fB	98.0 eA	1513 eA	1856 dA
CG 8166RR	73.3	33.3	53.3 a	133.0 cB	165.0 aA	2767 cB	3442 bA
Mean	83.1 } 3	64.2 } \		132.8	139.3	2677	3353
Causes of variation	Mean squares						
Genotype (G)	797.69 **			2427.68 **		978548**	
Management (M)	16465.05 **			19991.37 **		22400168 **	
G x M	218.94 ^{ns}			126.35 **		504026 **	

Means of genotypes followed by the same lowercase letters and means of fungicide management with upper case letters do not differ significantly by the Scott Knott test (P>0,05%). *, ** significant at 5% and 1% of probability, respectively, by the mean squares. ^{ns} not significant.

Conclusion

There was variability in the reaction of genotypes to target spot, EOCD's, and downy mildew. Regarding downy mildew, fungicide control showed low efficacy, but genotypes with higher resistance to this disease were observed. Regarding Asian rust, the genotypes did not differ significantly from each other, however, the control with fungicide application was efficient.

The association of chemical control with genotypes that presented lower severity in the evaluated diseases is effective in phytosanitary management. The use of genotypes with greater resistance to foliar diseases, associated with fungicide control, provided an increase in yield in the soybean crop.

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