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crop) should be done when population densities are high to decrease the risk of not detecting the presence of a damaging species. Thus, the best time to sample is generally near or just after harvest. Sampling in the fall will allow enough time for analysis so that results can be used as a guide for variety selection or choosing an alternative crop for the next growing season.

- Sampling for nematodes should be considered as important as sampling for soil fertility. This is especially true if there is no history of nematode sampling on either old or new soybean production sites. Once documentation of the absence or presence of nematodes is established for given fields, then management options outlined below can be adopted.

Mississippi soybean producers may submit soil samples for nematode analysis to the Mississippi State University [Extension Plant Pathology Lab](#). Instructions for sample submission and associated costs are contained on the laboratory site.

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- If test results indicate that the above nematode species are not present in a field, care should be taken to prevent their introduction since nematodes can be moved from field to field by soil that is transported on field equipment.
- If test results indicate the presence of nematodes, the management goal is to use management practices that will keep the nematode population as low as possible since they are very difficult to eliminate (See [Managing Nematode Pests in Midsouth Soybeans White Paper](#) on this website).
- Soil texture affects movement of SCN in the soil and also may affect its reproduction and development. Basically, major damage to soybean by SCN infestation occurs when the crop is grown on medium- and coarse-textured soils. Apparently, damaging populations of SCN are not sustainable in soils series classified as clay.
- RKN tends to be associated with sandy soils on sites that have previously been devoted to cotton production in the Midsouth, where the combination of root damage and the reduced water-holding capacity of the soil can result in wilting of infected plants during the heat of the day.
- Determination of the density and race or type of SCN present in individual fields is required to prevent losses and determine management and control practices to apply. Determination of the race or type is especially important because the different SCN resistance sources convey differing levels of resistance against the varied races or types.