**Identifying soybean growth stages –**

Begin scouting for soybean rust by the reproductive (R) stages. The growth stages can overlap; consider that a growth stage begins when 50% or more of the plants are in or beyond that stage. A node is a part of the stem where a leaf is attached.

### Bloom stages- R1 and R2

**R1-Beginning bloom –** (1-7 days) plants have at least one open flower at any node

**R2-Full bloom-(5-15 days )** an open flower at one of the two uppermost nodes of the main stem

### Pod development- R3 and R4

**R3- Beginning pod -(5-15 days)** pods are 3/16 inch at one of the four uppermost nodes with a fully developed leaf

**R4-Full pod –(4-26 days) pods are 3/4 inch at one of the four uppermost nodes on a main stem with a fully developed leaf. This stage is the most critical for soybean yield.**

### Seed development- R5-R6

**R5-Beginning seed- (11-20 days) seed is 1/8 inch long in the pod at one of the four uppermost nodes on the main stem.**

**R6-Full seed –(9-30 days) pod containing a green seed that fills the pod capacity at one of the four uppermost nodes on the main stem –stop scouting when soybeans reach R6.**

### Maturity R7-R8

**R7-Beginning maturity (7-18 days) One normal pod on the main stem has reached it's mature pod color.**

**R-8 Full maturity 95% of pods have turned their mature color ( tan or brown).**