

Row Crop News

Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service
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SOYBEANS

INSECTS: Bollworms are the big news. As expected with the big increase in corn acreage, we have seen a big jump in activity with bollworms. Bollworms moving out of corn have hit the late-planted soybeans that are just beginning to bloom and set pods. Most common are the fields that are not lapped.

- One concern is that many growers are not scouting and will miss these worms or just not decide to treat. Make no mistake, bollworms are the most destructive of all soybean pests and can decimate a bean field in short order. Most of the worms are feeding on the blooms and small pods.
- Another concern is that, although activity is high, a lot of people are spraying “on sight.” The Extension threshold on soybean for bollworm is 15 per 25 sweeps or 4 per row foot on standard row beans. These thresholds are solidly-based, and you should use them to base your decision on whether or not treatment is needed. Also, remember that 4 per row foot on 38” rows is equivalent to 2 per row foot on 19” rows and 1 per row foot on 9.5” rows.

Soybean/cabbage loopers are being seen in low numbers but one sure way to get them to blow up is with use of pyrethroids in “on sight” or below threshold sprays for worms. **Bottom line is spray if needed!** But avoid spraying fields not close to treatment level. Consult the **MP-144** for rates.....and then realize that bollworms are much easier to kill in soybean than cotton because they can't get away from the pesticide. Use the higher end rates on very high populations and bigger worms and the lower use rate on moderate populations with medium-size worms. If all the worms are small, wait a few days and let them get to medium size as natural enemies can really be effective on small bollworms. (Gus Lorenz, Extension Entomologist, IPM Coordinator)

Also of concern in Jefferson County are the **garden webworms and fall armyworms (FAW)** that have been hitting late-planted soybeans. In the weedy fields, garden webworms are feeding first on pigweeds and then going after young soybeans as populations build. FAW have been found in high numbers in recent weeks feeding on grass. Then, when the grass is killed they move onto the soybeans to feed/survive.

A number of acres have been treated recently for **stinkbugs**. Use of sweep nets can indicate the amount of true pressure in fields from stinkbug populations until plants get too canopied-over from adequate sweeping to occur. Stinkbug hatchouts were observed the week of July 28–August 2 and nymphs found in some fields. Mating stinkbugs were easily seen the week of August 4–9 in several fields. This means hatchout is to come shortly. Do not treat stinkbug for newly-hatched nymphs. Many predators can

knock those young stinkbug numbers back and very young nymphs don't feed much nor cause damage. Once stinkbugs get a week or 10 days of growth on them, they do lots of feeding—they can't fly, so all they do is feed and size up toward adult stage.

WEED RESISTANCE: Pigweed continue to be found in fields even after a second or third herbicide application. These weeds have much more tolerance to chemicals and should be destroyed before going to seed, if at all possible. For 2009, fields with hard-to-control pigweed should be noted now and appropriate burndown or residual programs put in place for higher knockdown and control of next years crop of weeds.

Tall Waterhemp - A member of the pigweed family not commonly seen in Arkansas is tall waterhemp. In Jefferson County, two fields of this weed have been brought to our attention. Both fields were treated for pigweed control that burned the tall waterhemp down, but did not kill it out. The weeds re-grew and were treated a second time, but still survived the second treatment. A third application of products was recently applied, and some weeds are severely injured after this treatment. It is too early to tell how many weeds will re-grow.

Asian Soybean Rust - ASR is still active but not in Arkansas! ASR has been found along the gulf coast. However, the rains over the weekend down there may cause it to spread. Web site for ASR is www.sbrusa.net, and the ASR Hotline number is: (866) 641-1847.

Fertility-Potash Deficiency Symptoms - A few calls have come in over the last few weeks about yellowing leaves along the leaf margins. Yellowing along the leaf margin is generally due to potassium (potash) deficiency. Potassium deficiencies showing up prior to early seed development can be corrected with an application of potash (0-0-60) that is watered in by a prompt irrigation or rain. University studies have reported yield increases of 6 bushels or more per acre on fields with potassium deficiencies where potash was applied, watered in, and the field not allowed to drought stress for the remainder of the growing season.

Applications of glyphosate at critical timings may mimic potash deficiency symptoms of yellowing. Row patterns around ends of fields or along drain furrows may be noted.

DISEASES

Diseases are creeping into fields as stem and root diseases. Some *Southern Blight* has been noted in hot spots where Root Knot Nematodes are killing soybeans.

Sudden Death Syndrome is becoming more prevalent, but this is a variety selection issue. Mark fields, and be sure to select SDS resistant beans for the future.

Some *Stem Canker* has been reported in the state this year. Again, this is a variety selection process. So, be careful to get SC resistant beans for fields that show this disease.

Foliar diseases, like *frogeye leaf spot*, have been low but susceptible varieties may start flaring after the rains and cloud cover of the past weekend.

There is concern that *Aerial Blight* may start showing in older beans after this extended wet pattern, coupled with clouds.

JEFFERSON COUNTY EXTENSION CROPS TOUR - AUGUST 21

The Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Service invites you to participate in a Crops Tour to be held on **Thursday, August 21, 2008**.

Come look at Corn Variety plots at three farms and grain sorghum variety plots (irrigated and dryland) on another farm. We will see early, late and double-crop corn plots. Also, we will make a stop at a soybean nematode research plot. For those interested, there will be discussions along the way about Pigweed Resistance and escapes. We will also show you a member of the pigweed family—Tall Waterhemp—that has been very difficult to control over a couple of fields.

Door prizes will be made available by various companies.

CROP TOUR #1

August 21, 2008

AGENDA

- 7:30 – 8:15 am** *Corn Variety Demo*
Guenther Farm - Rob Roy Rd
(Lawson, Kelley)
- 8:45 – 9:45** *Corn Variety Demo-after wheat*
Smart Farm - Reed Lake Rd
(Emerson, Monfort, Akin, Plunkett)
- Soybean disease/Nematodes/Insects*
(Coker, Akin)
- 10:00 – 10:30** *Soybean Nematode Study*
Sites Farm - Reed Lake Rd
- 10:50 – 11: 45** *Corn & Grain Sorghum*
Variety Demo- Young Farm
Irrigation termination
(Lawson, Kelley, Phillips, Plunkett)
- 12:15 – 1:00 pm** *Sponsored lunch*
Sherrill Fire Station?
- 1:15 – 1:45** *Tall Waterhemp & Pigweed*
Resistance to Glyphosate
Earl Chadick Rd or Fire Station
(Smith, Plunkett)

CROP TOUR #2

August 25, 2008

AGENDA

- 8:05 – 8:55 am** *Group V Soybean Variety Demo-*
Stem Canker/RR
Walt Farm - Reed Lake Rd
(Ross, Plunkett)
- 9:20 – 10:20** *Multiple Inlet vs Levee watered rice -*
Irrigation termination –
Rice weed control-dessication
Guenther Farm
(Tacker- Wilson, Scott)
- 10:35 – 11:10** *Group IV Soybean Variety Demo-*
SDS resistance
Waterloo Farms - McKinney Road
(Ross, Plunkett)
- 11:30** *Tall Waterhemp and Pigweed Resistance*
Earl Chadick Rd
(Scott, Plunkett)
- 12:10 pm** *Sponsored lunch*
- 1:15** *tentative - RiceTec variety*
Hwy 65 South - Pine Bluff

Rice Stink Bugs

Rice fields should be scouted for stink bugs as they start to head and for the first 4 weeks of heading. Some treatments have been made but most growers are not reporting problems. Thresholds are 5 per 10 sweeps for the first two weeks of heading and 10 per 10 sweeps for the next two.

2008 CORN PRODUCTION **HANDBOOK AVAILABLE ONLINE**

The “2008 Corn Production Handbook” (MP)437 is now available for sale for \$8.46. You can order this publication or access it on your computer at the following website:

<http://pubs.uaex.edu/PubsWebPublic.asp>

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 4 – Lonoke Farm Field Day –UAPB
Pearlie S. Reed/Robert L. Cole Small Farm
Outreach Wetlands & Water Management Center

University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture and County Governments Cooperating.

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