

General Conditions

Weather: After a good rain last week, we spent this week in the dry for most of the county, but some northern parts of the county caught a good rain yesterday. I received calls about how long can herbicides be sprayed before a rain, because that rain was totally unexpected. As far as the rest of the county it is hot and dry. It seems like the last two days plants really showed the drought and heat stress. The forecast continues for these pop up showers and hot days. Hopefully everyone will catch one soon.

Row Crop

Corn: Corn is between R3 and R4 around the county. Irrigation is the top priority right now. Pivots are running as much as possible to keep up with the hot dry weather. We are a long way from irrigation termination so we need to keep those pivots moving. Scouting fields this week I did find southern rust. It has been found in just about every county in the River Valley this week. My hope is that we can outrun it, but on some of the fields that are just going into R3 we need to keep an eye on it. Southern rust is an aggressive disease and this is southern rust weather.

Total Heat Units Accumulated Since April 18	Heat Units Accumulated July 11 – July 17
2059	215

Rice: Rice fields are moving into mid boot with a few of the earlier planted fields moving into late boot. Sheath blight is still hard to find in the county. I actually saw a few areas starting this week, but they were far and few between and very low on the plants. I did find some blast on some Provisia this week. Provisia is notorious for blast and sheath blight. We will be treating that field with two fungicide applications to control the blast. If you have had a history of kernel or false smut, now is the time to spray a fungicide. For smut 6 ounces of propiconazole works good. If you have sheath blight also, move to Quilt Excel at 21 ounces per acre but for just sheath blight you can apply a strobil. For blast you will want to apply a strobil at late boot followed by an application when the panicles are 50-75% emerged but the neck is still in the boot.

Dr. Jarrod Hardke's 17th Arkansas Rice Update: <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/crops-commercial-horticulture/rice/Arkansas%20Rice%20Update%207-10-20.pdf>

DD50 program: <https://dd50.uaex.edu/>

2020 Managing Water-Seeded Rice for Arkansas: <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/crops-commercial-horticulture/rice/2020%20Managing%20Water-Seeded%20Rice%20in%20Arkansas.pdf>

Soybeans: Soybeans are looking good around the county. The rain we got last Thursday is gone and pivots are starting to run. One more good rain would go a long way on some of these little beans. We have made it through the first rounds of herbicide applications and I must say this is one clean crop. We are still working through some of the herbicide scenarios, but the Enlist technology is proving to be a very effective weed control technology.

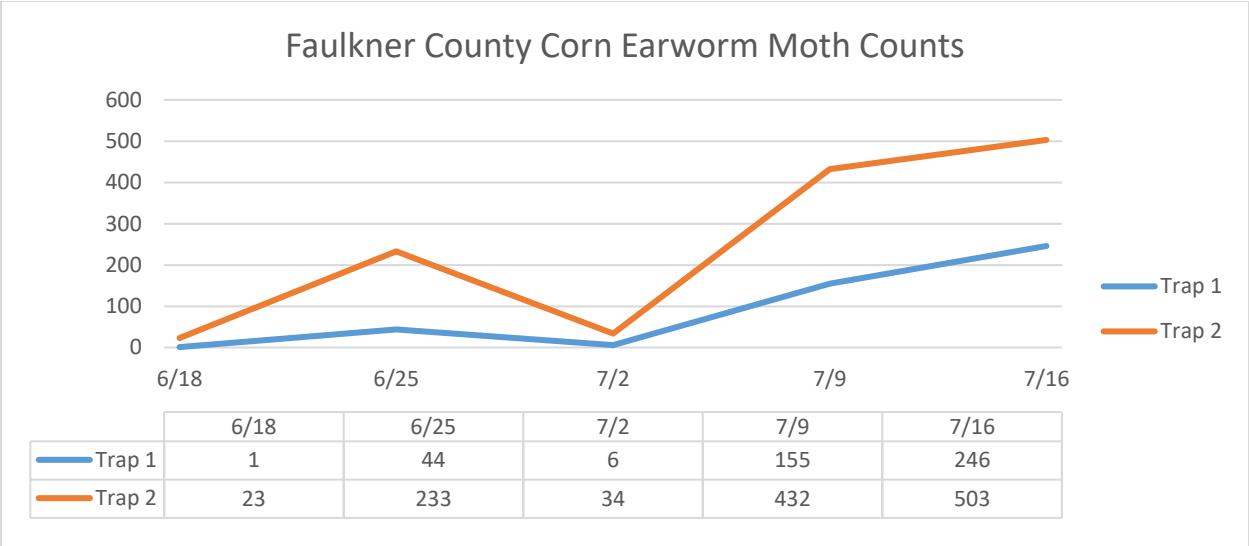
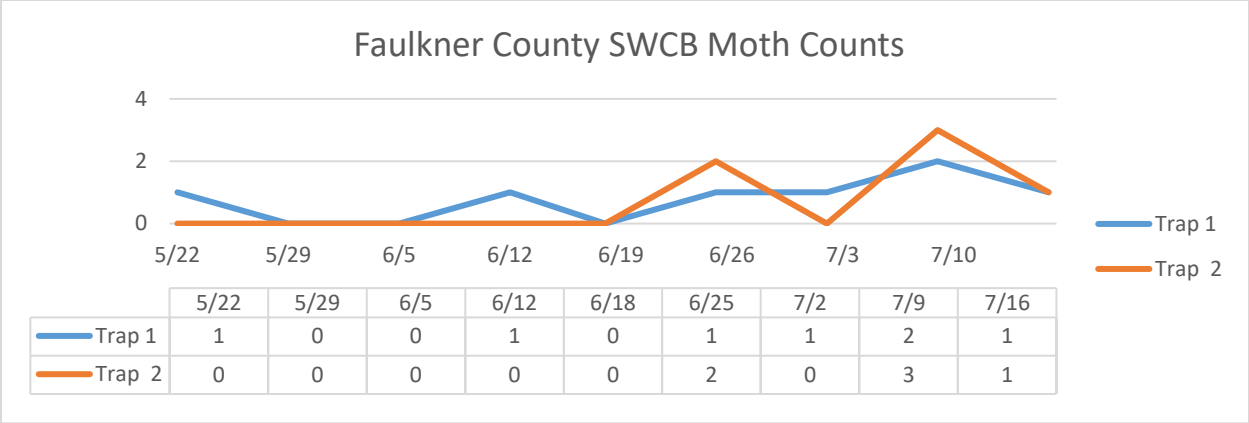
Insects are really starting to show up. I found some corn earworms in a field of small beans earlier this week. The defoliation was still below threshold, but I was concerned to see that amount of worms. The corn earworm moth traps were full of moths this week. I am also picking up some velvetbean caterpillars which are a big defoliator. So far nothing has been above threshold but we need to continue to scout.

SRVP (Soybean Research Verification Program) Field: The verification field was at V8 this week and really looking good. We received 0.55 inches of rain last Thursday but that rain didn't last long. It was enough to zero out our sensors, but we are looking at an irrigation soon if we don't get another rain. The Enlist application is still working on big weeds. I was amazed to see how well it killed some big pigweeds. We will be applying another application of Enlist One and glyphosate next week to finish off all of the weeds and catch the new flush we have of morningglories and coffebean.

Moth Trap Counts for this week:

After a big catch of earworm moths last week we followed it up with an even bigger catch this week. Moth counts are at very high numbers and soybeans need to be scouted regularly.

SWCB Trap 1: 1	Corn Earworm Trap 1: 246
SWCB Trap 2: 1	Corn Earworm Trap 2: 503



Beef & Forage

Hay and Pasture Insects: I have been hearing a few accounts of armyworms around the county, but I finally found some myself earlier this week. The majority of the worms were bigger worms that were about to cycle out. I scouted several more acres in the county, but didn't see another worm. We need to start scouting all of our pastures and hay for armyworms now. I have attached a handout on control options. Most producers spray a 2 lb Lambda Cy at 2 ounces per acre, but by adding 2 ounces of Dimilin you can add some residual at a reasonable price.

We continue to see an uptick of Bermudagrass Stem Maggots in the county. They are becoming a lot easier to find. If we are spraying for armyworms, we will control the adult fly also. But if you see damage to your bermuda and don't see any worms, let me know and we will scout for the fly.

Research shows little difference for consumers between steaks from naturally or conventionally raised cattle:

Arkansas researchers have shown that consumers experience no tangible differences between steaks from conventionally grown commodity beef cattle and those from branded “naturally grown” programs.

The research from the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture analyzed quality characteristics of ribeye rolls from five “naturally grown” brands and two conventional commodity beef processors.

Janeal Yancey and Tim Johnson, research technicians with the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, the research arm of the Division of Agriculture, worked on the study with Cari Keys, a graduate student in the University of Arkansas’ Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences. Keys conducted the research for her master’s thesis. She has since gone on to work for Nestle USA. The project was funded, in part, by the Arkansas Beef Council.

Conventionally produced beef comes from cattle raised predominantly on forages for 8 to 12 months and then finished on high-concentrate diets in feedlots for 120 to 200 days before slaughter, Yancey said. Naturally branded products come from cattle that generally follow the same pattern, but without the use of antibiotics or growth hormones.

“Consumers often think that cattle in branded naturally raised products are the same as organically raised or exclusively grass-fed beef,” Yancey said. “But these are not the same thing. These cattle are still finished in a feedlot. Other than not using antibiotics or growth promotion products, their production is not very different from commodity beef.”

The study did not include “organic” branded products or cattle that are raised entirely on grass pastures, Yancey said.

“Branded fresh beef products make claims about benefits of naturally raised beef programs,” Yancey said. “We wanted to see if those claims were founded.”

The research compared meat color, amount of beneficial fatty acids, antibiotic residues and tenderness at different cooking temperatures, Yancey said. A panel of taste-testers also assessed consumer preferences in the Experiment Station’s Sensory Science Center.

The team found slight differences between the products, Yancey said. The naturally grown meat was lighter in color. The conventionally raised meat lost more volume in cooking.

“Surprisingly,” Yancey said, “the only products in which we found detectable levels of antibiotics were steaks from two of the naturally raised branded products. There were trace amounts of penicillin-G.”

Johnson said the penicillin residues were probably from injections for a legitimate veterinary health concern. Normally, a treated animal would be kept out of production until the medicine had left the body.

Yancey said their research showed no significant differences in nutritional values or tenderness. And the taste tests showed no significant differences in consumer preferences.

“Products branded as ‘naturally raised’ often charge a premium price for advertised differences,” Johnson said. “And research has shown that consumers are willing to pay for those. But our research found no real difference in meat quality or consumer preferences between the naturally raised products or conventionally raised commodity beef.”

To learn more about Division of Agriculture research, visit the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station website: <https://aaes.uark.edu>. Follow us on Twitter at [@ArkAgResearch](#) and Instagram at [ArkAgResearch](#).

Pesticide Applicator Training

Anyone that needs a private applicators license can use the online course as their required training to obtain a license. The online training is located at www.uaex.edu/pat. The Arkansas State Plant Board has made an exception and will allow producers that are certifying for the first time to be able to use the online training.



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Fall Armyworm Management and Recognition

Severe fall armyworm (FAW) outbreaks result in significant forage and hay production losses. Fall-time infestations may also prevent establishment of newly emerged winter annuals. Damage often appears quickly because infestations are easily overlooked when caterpillars are small and eating very little. Beginning as early as June damaging fall armyworm populations may occur in Arkansas.

Host Plant preference – FAWs feed on variety of forages but often prefer lush well-fertilized bermudagrass and threaten newly emerged small grains and ryegrass.

Scouting - Pastures and hayfields should be diligently scouted for FAWs. Examine at least 10 one sq. ft. samples at random across the field. Female FAW moths prefer to lay eggs in areas of abundant growth, be sure to include a few of these areas in your 10 samples.

Insecticide	Form/ Acre	Lb ai/ Acre	Acres / Gal	Comments
Lambda-cy AG & others (R) (13% lambda-cyhalothrin, 1lb/gal)	2.5-3.8 oz	0.02-0.03	33-50	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application.
Warrior II & generics (R) -22.1% lambda-cyhalothrin, 2 lb/gal)	1.28-1.92 oz	0.02-0.03	66-100	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application.
Mustang Max (R) (9.6% zeta-cypermethrin)	2.8-4.0 oz	0.0175-0.025	32-45	No grazing restriction for grass forage or hay (0 day PHI for grass forage and hay).
Baythroid XL (R) (12.7% beta-cyfluthrin)	2.6-2.8 oz	0.020-0.022	45.7-49.2	No grazing restriction for grass forage or hay (0 day PHI for grass forage and hay).
Tombstone (R) (24.7% cyfluthrin)	1.6-1.9 oz	0.025-0.030	67.4-80	No grazing restriction for grass forage or hay (0 day PHI for grass forage and hay).
Prevathon (5% chlorantraniliprole)	10-13 oz.*	0.034-0.044	10-13	No restriction for grazing or hay (0 day PHI for grass forage and hay). * 2(ee) rate
Besiege (R) (9.26% chlorantraniliprole & 4.03% lambda-cyhalothrin)	6-9 oz.	0.059-0.088	14-21	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application
Tank Mix – Lambda-cy (R) and Dimilin (R) (22% diflubenzuron)	3.8 lc + 2.0 oz. d	0.03 lc 0.031 d	33 64	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application. Dimilin is an IGR. Add crop oil when air temp is high and humidity low.
Intrepid (22.6% methoxyfenozide)	4-8 oz.	0.06-0.12	16-32	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 7 days of application.
Sevin XLR Plus (44.1% carbaryl)	2-3 pt	0.5-1.0	2.7-4.0	Allow 2-3 days for control to become effective. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest or grazing.
Blackhawk (20% spinosad) Tracer (44.2% spinosad)	1.1-2.2 oz. 1-2 oz	.033-0.056	7-14lb. 64-128	No grazing restriction. Do not harvest hay within 3 days of application.

(R) = Restricted use pesticide. Products in the shaded area of the table provide 2-4 weeks of residual activity.

Control – Chemical control is usually needed when 2 or 3 worms per square foot are present. Read label instructions and follow all harvesting and grazing restrictions. In situations where mixed-sized worms are present, strongly consider using products with longer residual activity. Insecticide options for FAW control are listed in the table. "Managing Armyworms in Pastures and Hayfields" is available at <http://www.uaex.edu/publications/PDF/FSA-7053.pdf> and the Insecticide Recommendations for Arkansas at <http://www.uaex.edu/publications/mp-144.aspx>.

Fall Armyworm - *Spodoptera frugiperda*



Fall Armyworm Adults
Fall Armyworm Larvae



Dr. Kelly Lottin, Entomologist, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture, and County Governments Cooperating. The University of Arkansas System Office of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs and services without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Mention of trade names implies no endorsement of named products or criticism of products not named.