RICE

Rice Expo Set for August 7th
Think about a road trip with your family or farming buddies to attend the 2015 Arkansas Rice Expo in Stuttgart. Dr. Jarrod Hardke, U of A Extension Rice Specialist reports it is once again planned with topics and activities the whole family will enjoy. Several field tours and indoor breakout sessions are planned. Some topics to be covered at the Expo include trade implications, feral hogs, barnyardgrass, gardening, and food preservation. The fourth annual rice recipe contest is also planned. For more details go to the expo website: http://www.uaex.edu/rice-expo/

Rice Stink Bug Thresholds
Rice is heading or about to head and will need checked for stinkbugs weekly through maturity. According to Ron Baker, U of A Rice Verification Program Coordinator, stink bugs feed on developing kernels resulting in blanks during the milk stage of development. As stink bugs continue to feed during the dough stage of development they weaken kernels resulting in lower milling and head rice yields. Scouting during early morning or late evening gives the most reliable estimate of stink bug levels. A 15 inch diameter sweep net should be used to assess stink bug populations. The threshold to trigger an insecticide application the first 2 weeks after 75% heading is when an average of 5 or more stink bugs are found per 10 sweeps, or when 2 or more stink bugs per square yard are present. Baker notes that once rice enters the dough stage the threshold goes up to 10 stink bugs per 10 sweeps, or when 3 or more stink bugs per square yard are present. Several locations should be checked for each field. Baker advises not to make automatic applications for control. This can wipe out beneficial insects like the longhorned grasshoppers.

Insecticides listed for control of the rice stink bug in the MP 144 include Seven, Malathion, Tenchu, Prolex, Proaxis, Declare, Karate Z, and Mustang Max. Tenchu, one of the newest products on the market, is rated a 9 on control. The other labeled products were given a 7-8 rating. Repeat treatment may be needed if stink bug numbers are high.***

SOYBEANS

IPM Meetings Scheduled for July 30th
Make plan to take a few minutes for a soybean insect and disease situation update on July 30th. Chris Grimes, UA Extension Soybean Verification Coordinator, and Dr. Glenn Studebaker, UA Extension Entomologist, will lead the discussions. Two locations are planned for your convenience.

8:00 am  Marmaduke - Agee Farm Pest Survey Field
Go east 0.6 mi on Hwy 34 from Hwy 34 & Hwy 49 Junction, turn south on Greene Rd 817, the field is 0.5 ahead on the left. (GPS 36.179238, -90.373570)

9:30 am  Beech Grove - King Farm Pest Survey Field
Go west 2.6 mi on Hwy 34 from Hwy 34 & Hwy 141 Junc, turn south on Greene Rd 230, Go ahead 2 mi., turn east on Greene Rd 224, the field is 0.7 mi ahead behind grain bins. (36.155755, -90.651740)
SOYBEANS CONTINUED

Insect & Disease Management

Make sure to regularly check soybeans for foliage & pod feeders. According to Dr. Glenn Studebaker, Arkansas Extension Entomologist, foliage feeding worms found in soybeans include corn earworm, soybean looper, green cloverworm, velvetbean caterpillar, garden webworm, yellow striped armyworm, beet armyworm, and fall armyworm. Before bloom, treat for worms if they cause over 40% defoliation. After bloom, treat for over 25% defoliation.

When soybeans start setting pods they should be watched closely for earworms. They prefer to feed on pods and can cause significant yield losses. Fields with plants not covering the row middles (often late planted beans) generally have the most worm pressure. So far in our local pest survey, earworm numbers have been low in soybeans.

The threshold to treat for earworms in soybeans is 9 per 25 sweeps. Sweep deep into the canopy to get more accurate estimates of worm numbers. You also need to observe plants for presence and degree of pod feeding. If you have row beans, the insecticide threshold trigger is 1 per row foot (14,000/acre) that are 1/2 inch or longer (beneficials feed on the smaller worms). On 30 inch beans the threshold figures out to 0.8 worms per foot.

Studebaker notes that several synthetic pyrethroids and carbamates are labeled for control of corn earworm. He also advises using some of the “softer insecticides” in other chemistries like Belt, Steward, and Blackhawk. They are not as harsh on beneficials. In addition, earworm resistance to pyrethroids has increased in recent years making them not as consistent for earworm control. Also listed in “other chemistry” in the UA Insect Guide, MP144, is Prevathon (received highest rating for earworm control) and Intrepid Edge.

Stink bug numbers also generally build up during August. A stink bug can feed for several weeks making dents in both yield and quality. The treatment threshold is an average of 9 stink bugs per 25 sweeps, or 1 per row foot (14,000/acre) when using a shake sheet. Once again, on 30 inch rows, the threshold is 0.80 stink bugs per row foot. Studebakers says that pyrethroids are effective on green stink bugs, but for brown stink bugs, acephate, bifenthrin, Belay, or Endigo are the effective options. So far in our local pest survey, stink bug numbers have been low.

We are also keeping an eye out for the kudzu bug. It has not yet been found this far north, so please let us know if you find suspect bugs. We will get them to Dr. Studebaker to check. The treatment threshold is 25 nymphs per 25 sweeps or 4 per row foot.

We encourage you to think about scouting procedures. The goal is to estimate if a pest is present at a high enough level to cause crop damage and subsequent economic loss. In some situations a sweet net may work best to check for insects. It may be your only option on a broadcasted or drilled crop. In other situations, you may get a more reliable pest count using a shake sheet. With either method there is some variation among scouts on their sample size depending on their body size/type and gathering technique. More details about sampling can be found in the UA Soybean Production Handbook. Note that in our Greene County Pest Survey we try to report worms and stink bugs in 1000s/acre to be able to compare populations across sampling techniques. For example if we average 4 stink bugs per 25 sweeps we convert that to 6000 per acre ((4/9) x 14000).

Some soybean growers may also be considering fungicide application. The U of A Extension service does not recommend a blanket application of a fungicide unless you have disease present in the field or are in the seed production business. The main two diseases to scout for are Frogeye leaf spot and aerial web blight. Last year strobie resistance was found on two fields in Greene County treated for Frogeye. Hopefully the varieties you have planted have Frogeye resistance. Check out the UA Disease Guide, MP 154, for more details on the need to use foliar fungicides in soybeans, and products recommended.***
8:00 am  Welcome / Introductions  -  Joey Massey / Allen Davis

8:05  Corn Fertility Test (P & K Studies)  -  Dr. Morteza Mozaffari

Johnny Distretti Farm  (Terry Smith test discussed too)
- On Hwy 141, 0.3 mi. South Hwy 412 & Hwy 141 Junction (GPS: 36.064793, -90.672664)

8:40  Irrigation Water Management Demonstration - Mike Hamilton

Massey Farm - On Hwy 228, 2.5 mi. south Hwy 412 & Hwy 228 Junc (36.04024, -90.775899)

9:30  Application Technology Update  -  Jason Davis

Massey Farm - On Hwy 141, 2.6 mi. south Walcott (36.013737, -90.698476)

10:45  Application Equipment Update  -  Baker Implement Company

Jeremy Adams - Case IH Sprayers, Jason Perry - Capstan System

11:45  Application Equipment Update  -  Legacy Equipment Rep

12:00  Lunch  (Sponsored by Baker Implement Company)  -  Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Programs Participants:

Jeremy Adams  Precision Farming Manager, Baker Implement Company
Allen Davis  County Extension Agent - Staff Chair
Jason Davis  Extension Application Technologist, U of A, Division of Agriculture
Mike Hamilton  Extension Irrigation Specialist, U of A, Division of Agriculture & USDA - NRCS
Joey Massey  Massey Farms
Dr. Morteza Mozaffari  Assistant Professor, Soil Fertility, U of A, Division of Agriculture
Jason Perry  Capstan Representative
Sprayer Systems Rep  Legacy Equipment

Thank You!

Host - Massey Farms
Meal Sponsor  -  Baker Implement Company

Jason Davis (right), Extension Application Technologist for the U of A, will provide hands on training about proper spray tip selection and new spray equipment designed to maximize product performance while minimizing drift. Baker Implement Company will have their newest sprayer at the clinic to spotlight.

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status.
**Sprayer Application Technology Clinic**

**August 5, 2015  -  Mikel Farms Headquarters**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:20</td>
<td>Welcome / Introductions - Keith Mikel / Allen Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Application Technology Update - Jason Davis</td>
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<td>10:45</td>
<td>Application Equipment Update - Legacy Equipment Reps</td>
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<td>R Series Sprayers, CAPSTAN System, Spot On Spray Calibration, MyJohnDeere.com documentation solutions</td>
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**Directions:** Go 6.1 mi. east (from downtown overpass) of Paragould on Hwy 412. Turn north on Greene Rd 834. Mikel Hdgtr is about a mile ahead on the left.

GPS: 36.066114 -90.378004

**Thank You!**

**Host - Mikel Farms**

**Meal Sponsor - Legacy Equipment**

**Programs Participants:**

- Josh Arrington  
  Agronomist & IR Specialist, Legacy Equipment
- Allen Davis  
  County Extension Agent - Staff Chair
- Jason Davis  
  Extension Application Technologist, U of A, Division of Agriculture
- Precision Farming Rep  
  Baker Implement Company
- Clint Harris  
  Integrated Solutions Manager, Legacy Equipment
- Keith Mikel  
  Mikel Farms
- David Rawls  
  AMS Consultant-Master Technician, Legacy Equipment
- Barkley Rowland  
  Legacy Equipment

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Late Season Sorghum Insects
So far in our local pest survey we have not had much luck finding midge or aphids. On the other hand, we are finding high numbers of earworms in some fields, along with light populations of sorghum webworm. For earworms and armyworms, the threshold trigger for control is one larva (1/2 inch or longer) per head. With sorghum webworms, 5 or more per head are needed to reach treatment level. If you are finding several small worms, make sure to check the field again in 3-4 days to see what is present. Hopefully beneficials will keep pest worm numbers down, but if not, you will need to treat if threshold level is reached.

We are still scouting fields for white sugar cane aphid, but have not yet found them in Greene County. They have been confirmed in Craighead and Mississippi counties, so we expect they will be found here any day now. They can quickly develop to high levels that reduce grain yield and quality. They secrete honeydew which a black sooty mold grows on, which blocks photosynthesis. Heavy amounts of honeydew can also hinder harvest equipment.

According to Dr. Nick Seiter, U of A Extension Entomologist, the treatment level for white sugarcane aphid is when 25% of plants are infested with over 50 aphids per leaf. Insecticides used against most other aphids are not effective on the white sugarcane aphid. Seiter notes that preventative applications are not an option for sugarcane aphid, as the residual activity seen so far from insecticide applications is very short (8 days or less). If you spray and there are few or no aphids present, you are wasting an application, and the materials that are effective against sugarcane aphid are not cheap. Insecticide options for sugarcane aphid include Transform WG at 0.75-1.5 oz/acre (we recommend using 1 oz in most situations), and Sivanto at 4-7 oz/acre.

Make sure not to confuse the white sugarcane aphid with other aphids seen on grain sorghum in Arkansas. The greenbug, corn leaf aphid, and yellow sugarcane aphid can often be found, but are rarely of economic importance.***

Upcoming Meetings/Field Days
July 28th - Field Day & Sprayer Technology Clinic (Massey Farm)
July 30th - Soybean IPM meetings
August 5th - Sprayer Technology Clinic (Mikel Farm)
August 7th - Arkansas Rice Expo

Warmest regards,

Allen Davis
County Extension Agent-
Staff Chair

Dave Freeze
County Extension Agent-
Agriculture