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INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

June 11, 2008

CALHOUN

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Grain Sorghum

I have been finding rice stink bugs in sorghum fields at a rate of about 1-3 bugs per 10 heads. We are finding headworms at about 1-2 per 10 heads at a 50:50 mix of corn earworm and fall armyworm. Continue to scout sorghum fields until hard dough. Once the field has reached hard dough it is considered safe from insect damage.



RICE STINK BUG

Soybeans

Stink bug populations are increasing in soybean fields. While most fields are still below threshold, we are finding as many as 29 stink bugs per 100 sweeps and the populations are beginning to be dominated by the red-banded stink bug. Other stink bugs being found include Green, Brown and Conchuela stink bugs.

Considering the high price of soybeans, I suggest treating fields when stink bug numbers exceed 24 stink bugs per 100 sweeps, especially if red-banded stink bugs are present.



CONCHUELA
STINK BUG

Cotton

Whether we like it or not, most cotton fields are at or near cutout. I think that the cotton crop is cutting out 10-14 days earlier than normal due to heat and lack of rainfall. Cutout is defined as when the average number of nodes above white flower (NAWF) is equal to five. The fields we are checking are at 4 - 7 NAWF.

Cutout is an important physiological landmark in that it helps us determine when a cotton crop is “safe” from economic insect damage. Research has shown that small bollworms will not feed on bolls that are more than 350 heat units (HU) past bloom; and stink bugs will not feed on bolls past 450 HU. Mark the date when your cotton fields reach 5 NAWF, then count heat units.

Heat Units = (Daily High Temp. + Daily Low Temp.) ÷ 2 - 60

Example: High temp = 90, Low Temp = 77 HU = (90 + 77) ÷ 2 - 60 = 23.5 HU

While many insects seem to be fairly low in the fields this year, as the sorghum and corn nears harvest, stink bugs and other pests will move into the cotton and soybean fields. Continue to monitor fields for stink bugs, worms and other boll feeding pests.

Newsletters by E-Mail

We are providing this newsletter as part of the IPM program through US mail or e-mail. In effort to lower costs, if you have an e-mail, please send me an e-mail address so I can begin to send this newsletter to you through e-mail. This will help by saving on postage of \$0.42 per newsletter recipient as well as other costs.

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