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## **INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER**

**June 25, 2008**

### **CALHOUN**

Stephen Biles  
IPM Extension Agent  
186 CR 101 – P.O. Box 86  
Port Lavaca, Texas 77979

### **VICTORIA**

### **REFUGIO**

Office: (361)552-3324  
Mobil: (361)920-1138  
E-Mail: [biles-sp@tamu.edu](mailto:biles-sp@tamu.edu)  
Website: <http://calhoun-tx.tamu.edu>

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### **GRAIN SORGHUM**

While we saw some sorghum harvested this week, later planted grain may still be susceptible to headworms and stink bug damage until hard dough. Continue to monitor these fields for pests until hard dough.

### **SOYBEANS**

Stink bug populations are increasing in soybean fields. We are finding 0 to 65 stink bugs per 100 sweeps and the populations are dominated by the red-banded and southern green 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.

### **COTTON**

Most cotton fields are well past cutout, in fact, most fields were past cutout by the 10th of June. We are finding nodes above white flower (NAWF) counts ranging from 0-4 NAWF.

This is important because 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. With the heat that we have been experiencing, 350 HU will accumulate in about 16 days and 450 HU in about 20 days. Thus the crop will be "safe" from insect pests about 16-20 days after cutout (5 NAWF).

While many insects seem to be fairly low in the fields this year, as the sorghum and corn harvest continues, 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.

An important note on checking for stink bugs is to examine the inside of the boll wall on 50 bolls per field. The boll should be cut into without regard to the presence or absence of spots on the boll exterior. Observations have found that evidence of internal feeding is not strongly correlated with the feeding spots on the boll exterior.

Fall armyworms have been reported in cotton fields so keep an eye out for them as well.



Evidence of Boll Feeding

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