

MID-COAST IPM NEWS

Calhoun

Refugio

Victoria

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From Your IPM Agent . . .

Harvest has begun across the area. Some grain sorghum fields have been cut and James Grichar has begun to cut some of his soybean varieties. Rain can still help the cotton and later planted soybeans but it doesn't look like it will come.

SPB

Soybeans

Soybeans range in maturity stages from R5 to past harvest. Some fields are beginning to dry down. Stinkbugs are being found in highly variable populations with some fields exceeding economic threshold (36 / 100 sweeps) by as much as 80 bugs per 100 sweeps. My suggestion is to continue stinkbug control until pod maturity.

The risk level for Asian Soybean Rust is very, very low. In addition, the crop has matured past a point that this disease would have an impact on yield.

Treatment for rust is not recommended.

This past week I evaluated the soybean cages where we added stinkbugs, hoping to cause flat pod syndrome. While I am seeing some severe damage to soybean seed in the cages with high stinkbug populations, this damage is not nearly as severe as what was seen last year.

Cotton

Estimating yield in cotton can be very misleading. Most cotton fields have between 5 and 8 bolls per plant. So, depending on boll size (12-15 bolls per foot equals 500 lbs./A) and plant population, yield estimates range from very low (600 lbs) to very high (1500 lbs). However, I suggest using 15 bolls per foot to estimate yield. This will bring the estimates to between 600 to 1150 pounds of lint per acre.

Beet and Fall Armyworms (0-16 / 100 plants), bollworms (0-14 / 100 plants) and stinkbugs (0-15% feeding evidence) are being found in area cotton fields. While both beet and fall armyworms are being found, I have not noticed them entering the bolls. Monitor this closely if you have them in your fields and treat them if they are entering the fruit. Fields continue to have aphids and alternative insecticides to pyrethroids is advised to prevent flaring the aphids.

Most of the cotton, if not all, has less than 5 Nodes above White Flower (NAWF). Cotton is "safe" from bollworms at 350 Heat Units (HU) past cutout and "safe" from stinkbugs at 450-500 HU past cutout. If insects are not present at 350 or 450 HU past cutout, consider the crop past the pest damage window. Heat units are calculated as follows:

$$\text{HU} = (\text{Max temp.} + \text{Min Temp}) / 2 - 60.$$

Cotton that was cutout before June 20 is past the damage window for both boll worms and stinkbugs (**Table 1**). If cutout occurred prior to June 25, the cotton is safe from bollworms.

Table 1. Heat Unit accumulation in Calhoun, Refugio and Victoria Counties from selected dates through July 6.

	Calhoun	Refugio	Victoria
June 1 - July 6	945	911	1048
June 5 - July 6	879	845	977
June 10 - July 6	781	750	873
June 15 - July 6	682	655	764
June 20 - July 6	469	451	529
June 25 - July 6	342	327	386

Corn

Sugarcane borers have been found in non-Bt corn in Calhoun, Eastern Refugio and Eastern Victoria Counties. The borers can be found in the stalks about ear height and in ears. Continue look in the corn ears and stalks in your fields and let me know whether or not you find any worms (Call me at 920-1138). I am trying to map locations with sugarcane borers.



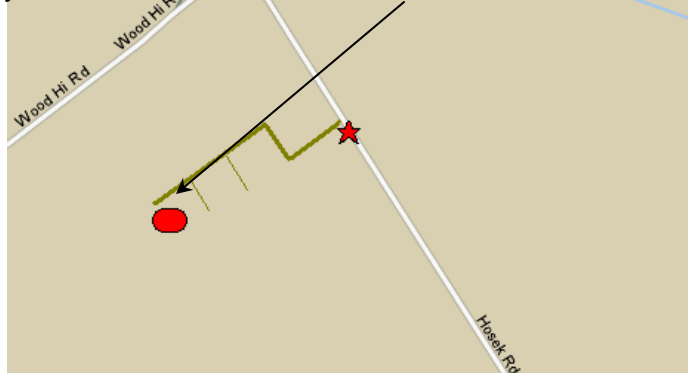
The IPM newsletters are also available on the internet at www.tpma.org. You can also have your newsletter e-mailed to you in a PDF format. Let me know if you would like to have your newsletter via e-mail.

Field Meetings

One hour CEU for Pesticide Applicators Licenses will be offered at each meeting.

Tuesday - July 12, 2005, 9:30 a.m.
 Milo Genetics, Hosek Road, Victoria County
 Examine Bt Technology in Cotton
 BollGuard, BollGuard II, and Widestrike

From HWY 87 at Guadalupe, take Wood-Hi Road and follow it past Boehm Road, James Lane, Kainer Road, Bayer Road #2 Road, turning left on to Hosek Road. Continue until you reach Milo Genetics following the drive until you reach the back of the lot.



Wednesday - July 13, 2005, 9:30 a.m.
 Malaer Farm, (FM 1090 and FM 3084),
 Calhoun County
 Examine Herbicide Tolerant Cotton
 Round-Up Ready Flex and Liberty Link

