

Mid-Coast IPM News

Calhoun

Refugio

Victoria

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General comments

Nearly all of the corn and grain sorghum has been harvested. Harvest of cotton and soybeans is well underway. As such, insects are only a pest in late soybean fields.

SPB

Soybeans

Soybeans that are very late and still green need to be monitored for stink bugs. From stink bug control trials we conducted this year, I think that stink bug control should be maintained until at least two weeks prior to harvest. However, late season insecticide applications can be in conflict with some insecticide labels. The insecticide label of Orthene 90 S says the product cannot be applied within 14 days of harvest and the Methyl 4 EC label says it cannot be applied within 20 days of harvest. Check the label of any insecticide you intend to spray to ensure that you are using the product according to the requirements of its label.

Cotton

Cotton harvest is well underway and most if not all cotton fields have already had harvest aids applied. Insects should no longer be an issue with this year's cotton crop.

Cotton plow down dates (October 1) help in the control of boll weevils and can greatly reduce the cost of boll weevil eradication. Most of those who receive this newsletter are in either Zone 2 (Area 4) or Zone 3 (Area 1)

and have a **plow down date of October 1.**

Zone 2 (Area 4)

Aransas north of Copano Bay (including but not limited to Lamar and Blackjack peninsulas), Calhoun, Goliad, LaSalle, McMullen, Refugio, Victoria and north and west of U.S. Highway 59 in Bee and Live Oak

Zone 3 (Area 1)

Jackson and Matagorda Counties and that portion of Wharton County west of the Colorado River

Excerpt from SCS-2003-10, Cotton Stalk Destruction with Herbicides.

Current Best Management Practices

Based on most recent field research, it appears the amine salt formulations are equally as effective as the ester formulations for cotton stalk destruction, and minimize problems associated with off-target drift. The first application should be at the rate of one pound of active ingredient/acre (e.g., 1 qt. of a 4 lbs. a.i./gal. formulation). Generally, a second application of 0.5 lbs. a.i./acre will be necessary for control of any remaining live stalks and emerged cotton seedlings. Thorough coverage is essential so applications should be made with 5 to 15 gallons of water/acre. Also, the addition of surfactant at a minimum rate of 0.5% v/v (2 qts./100 gals.) is recommended.

Shredded Cotton Stalks: *to obtain optimum results, cotton stalks should be shredded (6 to 8 inch height) and the spray application should*



be made soon after shredding. Best results are achieved if the herbicide is applied immediately after, or within a few hours of shredding. To achieve optimum effectiveness, some growers have mounted spray booms directly on their flail shredders and are banding their herbicide during the shredding operation, and achieving excellent results.

Standing Cotton Stalks: *standing cotton stalks should be sprayed soon after harvest (within 0 to 7 days) for optimum control. Stalk regrowth is not necessary for the treatment to be effective, so do not wait for it to develop. Excellent control has been achieved from both picker and stripper harvested cotton.*



"Notice the Shredder is equipped to spray behind it."

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