

MID-COAST IPM NEWS

Calhoun

Refugio

Victoria

Stephen Biles
Extension Agent-IPM
186 CR 101
Port Lavaca, TX 77979

Office: 361-552-3324
Fax: 361-552-6727
E-mail: biles-sp@tamu.edu
Website: <http://calhoun-tx.tamu.edu>

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CROP STATUS

Soil moisture varies widely across Calhoun, Refugio and Victoria Counties. While some areas have received more than 2 inches of rain over the past week, some fields have received little or no rainfall. Most crops have entered or are about to enter the reproductive phase of growth. This means that water requirements will begin to increase as will the need for additional rainfall.

Stephen

Soybeans

Soybean fields are blooming and making pods. Pest insects seen in area fields include leaf feeding pests and stinkbugs. Fields should be sampled 1-2 times per week with a sweep net for stink bugs. Economic thresholds for stink bugs are 36 per 100 sweeps.

Dr. Tom Isakeit, Extension Plant Pathologist, considers the threat from **Asian Rust** to this year's soybean crop is very small and getting smaller. The rust was found on volunteer soybeans in Georgia several weeks ago but has not developed further. Temperatures in Texas are now getting too hot for rust.

Cotton

Most area cotton fields are now squaring. The key pest we should be on the lookout for is the Cotton Fleahopper. I have found populations of fleahoppers ranging from 1-10 fleahoppers per 100 plants. The economic threshold is 10-15 fleahoppers per 100 plants. Automatic applications can be wasteful if the pest populations do not exceed the level of economic damage. While we know that populations of cotton fleahoppers can reduce yields, some studies have found insecticide applications to fields below economic threshold cause a net loss in profits.

Cotton Weed Control Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2005
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Calhoun County, FM 1090 and FM 3084 (Approximately 2.5 miles north of HEB in Port Lavaca)

- A herbicide trial containing RoundUp, Ignite, Dual, Envoke and Sequence will be reviewed.
- 1 hour CEU will also be available for pesticide applicator licenses.