

**Integrated Pest  
Management  
Calhoun, Victoria  
And  
Refugio Counties**

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**Supporters of IPM Program**

Texas Soybean Board  
Farmer's Coop of El Campo  
Hlavinka Equipment Co.  
Cotton, Inc.,  
South Texas Cotton & Grain  
Texas Grain Sorghum  
Producers Board



**Grain Sorghum**

We have begun to find headworms and stink bugs in sorghum fields. Some farms near Bayside and Austwell have been treated for one or both of these pests.

Populations I have seen thus far have been below economic thresholds. The numbers we have been finding are as high as one stink bug in 4-5 plants and 2-3 headworms in 10 plants. Headworms have all been corn earworms. I have included the economic threshold tables for stink bugs and headworms.

Sample fields by using a bucket to beat heads of sorghum. Beat heads 1-2 at a time and sample 10-20 heads in 5 or more locations in a field.

Sorghum that has reached hard dough is past the damage window for these pests and should be considered safe from yield losses.

**Table 20. Economic injury level for rice stink bug as number of bugs per acre at the milk stage.**

Control cost \$/acre	Grain value (\$/cwt)			
	6.00	7.00	8.00	10.00
6	30,500	27,000	23,000	18,500
8	40,500	35,000	30,500	24,500
10	51,000	43,500	38,000	30,500
12	62,000	52,500	46,000	36,500

**Table 16. Economic injury level for large (longer than ½ inch) corn earworm larvae shown as the number of larvae per acre. When the number of larvae per acre exceeds the number in the table at a given cost of control and value of grain per cwt, the value of the protected grain exceeds the cost of control.<sup>1</sup>**

Control cost \$/acre	Grain value \$/100 lbs			
	6.00	7.00	8.00	10.00
6	9,750	8,500	7,250	5,750
8	13,000	11,000	9,750	7,750
10	16,250	14,000	12,250	9,750
12	19,500	16,750	14,750	11,750

<sup>1</sup> This threshold table assumes all larvae will survive and complete development.

**Table 17. Economic injury level for medium-size (¼ to ½ inch) corn earworm larvae shown as the number of larvae per acre. When the number of larvae per acre exceeds the number in the table at a given cost of control and value of grain per cwt, the value of the protected grain exceeds the cost of control.<sup>1</sup>**

Control cost \$/acre	Grain value \$/100 lbs			
	6.00	7.00	8.00	10.00
6	51,500	44,750	38,250	31,250
8	68,500	58,000	51,500	41,750
10	87,750	73,750	64,500	51,500
12	102,750	88,250	77,750	62,000

<sup>1</sup> This table assumes 81 % of the medium-size larvae will die in that stage and not contribute to additional yield loss.



## Cotton

We have not been finding much in cotton fields. Fleahopper populations have been very low to non-existent and aphid numbers are dropping rapidly. Worms and stink bugs have yet to be found in damaging numbers to date.

## Soybeans

Soybean fields are also containing low numbers of stink bugs (0-30 per 100 sweeps). One pest that I am looking for in soybeans is the bean thrips. We encountered them in 2006 and 2009 at levels that defoliated the plant. I would use an economic threshold of 10 thrips per leaflet on drought stressed soybean fields.

## Applied research projects

If you have a field that needs treating for an insect pest, I would like to conduct a field research in that field. Please contact me (920-1138) so we can conduct an economic threshold trial or evaluate insecticides. These trials will need less than 1 acre of land, usually on the corner of a field.

## CROP TOURS


**Refugio County 7:00 AM—Registration—Canales Café, Tivoli, Texas**

**June 8, 2011 4:30 PM—Registration—Bonnie View, Woodsboro, Texas**

**Victoria County 1:30 PM—6:30 PM**

**June 16, 2011 @ Sons of Herman Hall, Dacosta, Texas**

**2011 CALHOUN COUNTY CROP TOUR**

  
Texas A&M System

*is hosting the annual Calhoun County Crop Tour on*  
**Tuesday, June 21 2011**

**Registration begins at 3:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds in the  
Bauer Exhibit Building, 186 CR 101 Port Lavaca, Texas  
with the program beginning at 4:00 p.m.**

A very informative tour is scheduled, with stops at different variety/hybrid trials. Guest speakers will include Dr. Roy Parker, Extension Entomology Specialist, Dr. Dan Fromme, Extension Agronomy Specialist, Jeff Nunley, Executive Director of South Texas Cotton and Grain Association, and Darrell Dusek, South Texas/Winter Garden Zone Manager of Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, and Rupert Butler, F.S.A., County Executive Director.

Three continuing education units (CEU) for pesticide applicators will be offered, one (1) in General, one and a half (1.5) in Integrated Pest Management, and one half (0.5) in Drift. Those wishing to receive these credits should be registered at the beginning of the day.

A sponsored meal will be offered to participants at the end of the tour.

**For more information or to RSVP, please contact the  
AgriLife Extension-Calhoun County Office at 361-552-9747 by June 13, 2011.**

