

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

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Harvest has been underway on some grain sorghum and corn fields in Refugio, Calhoun and Victoria Counties. While this will be taking much of our time, don't forget about the crops that are still susceptible to insect damage. I have heard sorghum yields ranging from 3000 to 6000 lbs/A and corn yields from 40-70 bu/A.

Grain Sorghum

Sorghum is "safe" from head feeding insects when the field is at hard dough. We still have some fields that are at soft dough and even some that have yet to head. Fall armyworms were found in sorghum fields at up to 1 worm per plant. The economic threshold on heading sorghum should be about 2-3 per 10 plants. While we are finding worms in sorghum fields that have not headed, these worms in whorl stage sorghum are very difficult to control and the yield potential.

The table below is the results of a research trial I conducted last week evaluating several insecticides for control of rice stink bug adults in sorghum.

Table 1. Numbers of Rice Stink Bug Adults in 20 sorghum heads for various insecticide treatments (Refugio County, 2011).

| Treatment | Rate | 6/22/2011 | 6/24/2011 | 6/27/2011 |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | 2 DA-A | 4 DA-A | 7 DA-A |
| 1 Dimethoate | 8 OZ/A | 8.8 b | 7.8 a | 4 b |
| 2 Lannate | 24 OZ/A | 8.8 b | 12.5 a | 12 a |
| 3 Baythroid XL | 2.8 OZ/A | 2 c | 9.8 a | 4.3 b |
| 4 Mustang Max | 4 OZ/A | 2 c | 9.3 a | 7.8 ab |
| 5 Untreated Check | | 37 a | 14.8 a | 13.5 a |
| LSD (P=.10) | | 6.34 | 10.14 | 7.19 |
| Standard Deviation | | 5.03 | 8.05 | 5.71 |
| CV | | 43 | 74.5 | 68.75 |
| Grand Mean | | 11.7 | 10.8 | 8.3 |
| Replicate F | | 2.342 | 0.253 | 0.51 |
| Replicate Prob(F) | | 0.1247 | 0.8575 | 0.683 |
| Treatment F | | 33.415 | 0.484 | 2.332 |
| Treatment Prob(F) | | 0.0001 | 0.7477 | 0.115 |

Means followed by same letter do not significantly differ (P=.10, LSD)



Cotton

We are finding that some fields have more than 20% evidence of feeding in some cotton fields. However, many of these fields are well past cutout (5 NAWF) and we have been unable to capture many stink bugs or *Creontiades* (Verde Plant Bug) in these fields.

Cotton is considered to be beyond the damage window at 450 heat units after 5 NAWF. We are accumulating about 22 heat units per day so a cotton field should be 450 HU past cutout in 20-21 days. Cutout in our survey fields ranged from June 1 to June 22.



Soybeans

Stink bugs are beginning to be found in higher numbers in some soybean fields. Fields should be scouted weekly and treated when individual field populations exceed 36 stink bugs per 100 sweeps or 1 bug per foot with a beat sheet.

