

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

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Soybeans

While some soybean fields have been harvested and others are at R8 (mature seed), younger beans are still susceptible to insect pests. The two insects I am watching for are stink bugs and thrips. Treatment decisions will be difficult to make in soybean fields with yield potential less than 20 bushels per acre.

We have seen increasing numbers of stink bugs in some fields in the past few weeks. Some fields have exceeded the economic threshold of 36 stink bugs per 100 sweeps or 1 per 3 row-feet.

Thrips are being found in drought stressed fields of Calhoun and Victoria Counties. I believe the thrips to be *Caliothrips phasiolii*, species confirmation will be coming soon. The same thrips encountered in 2009. The economic threshold for thrips is 8-10 thrips per leaf. This insect will defoliate the field prematurely if populations exceed 10 per leaf. Premature defoliation can have damaging effects on the beans; resulting in reduced yields and/or sour beans.

Trials conducted in 2009 showed insecticide treatment with products containing a pyrethroid and neonicotinoid insecticide, such as Endigo (4 oz/A) or Leverage 360 (2.8 oz/A), will provide excellent knock-down of this thrips and residual control up to 20 days. (These products will also control stink bugs.) Acephate (0.75 lb/A) will suppress the thrips population by 60-90% and dimethoate is not recommended for control of this thrips species.

Yield was measured in two of the research trials in 2009. Even though the yields were below 5 bushels per acre, plots where thrips were not controlled had significant yield losses.

I made applications to an insecticide trial on these thrips yesterday (Tuesday) and results will be reported next week. I am unsure of the effect of a pyrethroid used alone but this is included in this trial.



Cotton

Cotton fields are opening quickly. Fields range from 0-85% open as of yesterday. I expect to be picking some fields before the end of July. I think most if not all cotton fields are beyond the damage window for insect pests.



Grain Sorghum

Table 1. Grain yields and bushel weights for grain sorghum hybrids. (Calhoun County, 2011)

	YIELD lb/ac	Bu Wt lb/bu
TRX 95005	4072.9 c	59.3 bc
BH 5566	4295.8 c	59.7 bc
W 965E	4142.2 c	59.7 bc
GW 9417*	3558.0 d	59.3 bc
DKS 54-00	4677.2 ab	58.7 c
Pioneer 82P75	4380.6 bc	59.7 bc
TV96H81	4219.7 c	60.0 b
NK 5308	4184.5 c	59.7 bc
DKS 53-67	4836.3 a	62.0 a
GA 3696	4426.7 bc	59.7 bc
LSD (P=.05)	365.7	1.2
Standard Deviation	213.18	0.7
CV	4.98	1.17
Treatment Prob(F)	0.0001	0.0032

Means followed by same letter do not significantly differ (P=.05, LSD)

*Unusually high amounts of lodging in these plots.

Thanks to Sam Nunley for providing the site for this trial and Tommy Bertling of Monsanto for the use of the weigh wagon.

