

## MID-COAST IPM NEWS

Calhoun

Refugio

Victoria

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### **Cotton**

Some cotton is beginning to open and much of the rest is nearing or past cutout (5 NAWF). Continue to monitor for worms, aphids and stink bugs. A cotton field should be past the economic damage window for worms and stink bugs at 400 heat units past cutout. Even Bollgard II and Widestrike cotton should be monitored for worm infestations.

In transgenic Bt cottons, treatment with foliar insecticides for tobacco budworm or boll worm should be considered when 4,000 to 8,000 larvae per acre larger than 1/4 inch are present (based on a population of 40,000 to 60,000 plants/acre) or when 8 to 12 larvae larger than 1/4 inch per 100 plants are present and 5 to 15 percent of the squares or bolls are worm damaged.

I am also getting reports of Fall Armyworms in cotton. This insect may or may not be feeding in the bolls. Check the damage. If boll feeding is occurring, use a threshold similar to bollworms. Be sure to check Bt cotton which may not control fall armyworms.

### **Soybeans**

I have received several calls and visits concerning brown coloration on the underside of soybean leaves. Many of these plants have bean thrips on the leaves in numbers ranging from 0 to 100 per leaflet. While thrips are mentioned in the Texas Soybean Guide, the guide states that treatment is rarely justified. Treatment for stink bugs will likely remedy the problem with thrips.

We have found 0 – 156 stink bugs per 100 sweeps in the sweep nets. Results from an insecticide trial I conducted the last few weeks are below (**Table 1**). This trial was conducted in Calhoun County under very high insect pressure. All insecticides were effective at reducing the stink bug populations, including the red-banded stink bug. Variability in the other species prevented statistical differences from occurring but Southern Green, Green, Brown and Rice Stink bugs were also found in this trial.

Notice that a species shift occurred after the insecticide applications such that the red banded stink bug increased from 35% to 85% of the population in the untreated check. It is also important to note that no differences were detected on the first day after treatment. Sometimes the insecticide requires several days to affect the insects.

**Asian Soybean Rust has not been found in Texas and will not be an issue in this year's soybean crop.**

**Bermudagrass pastures**

Continue to monitor pastures for fall armyworms. Carbaryl has performed well in field trials. Spinosad (Tracer) recently received a pasture label with one day grazing interval.

**Table 1.** Numbers of Red Banded stink bugs (adults + nymphs) and all stink bug species combined per 100 sweeps at 1, 3 and 8 days after treatment of selected insecticides for stink bug control (Calhoun County, 2006).

	Red Band Stink bug 6/28/2006 1 DAT	Red Band Stink bug 6/30/2006 3 DAT	Red Band Stink bug 7/8/2006 8 DAT	All Stink bugs 6/28/2006 1 DAT	All Stink bugs 6/30/2006 3 DAT	All Stink bugs 7/8/2006 8 DAT
Untreated	16.7 a	43.3 a	133.3 a	48.3 a	51.7 a	156.7 a
ORTHENE 0.75 LB/A	1.7 a	5.0 b	10.0 b	5.0 a	8.3 b	20.0 b
ORTHENE 1 LB/A	3.3 a	5.0 b	20.0 b	36.7 a	6.7 b	26.7 b
Karate 1.92 FL OZ/A	8.3 a	5.0 b	26.7 b	25.0 a	10.0 b	63.3 b
Baythroid XL 2.8 FL OZ/A	3.3 a	1.7 b	25.0 b	10.0 a	3.3 b	36.7 b
LSD (P=.10)	12.48	12.05	65.99	40.55	17.62	68.33
Treatment Prob(F)	0.2495	0.0009	0.0421	0.3247	0.0047	0.0307

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

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