

MID-COAST IPM NEWS

Calhoun

Refugio

Victoria

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Cotton

Cotton fields range from 4-leaf to mid-bloom. Fields of blooming cotton have 5-8 nodes above white flower (NAWF). Fields with squaring cotton have **cotton fleahopper** populations ranging from 0-43 per 100 plants. Treat if a field has more than 15-25 fleahoppers per 100 plants.

Aphids continue to be a threat.

Soybeans

Soybean maturity ranges from first trifoliolate (V1) to pod fill (R6-7). **Stink bug** numbers are building. Adults, nymphs and eggs are in the fields. I have found populations ranging from 0-32 per 100 sweeps. While I am still finding all different kinds of stink bugs, the **red-banded stink bug** is becoming the dominant species in fields with higher numbers. The economic threshold for all stink bugs is 36/100 sweeps.



Pictures show stink bug eggs, the larger mass is typical of southern green stink bugs while the egg mass with two rows is more typical of the red banded stink bug (*P. guildinii*).

Grain Sorghum

Some sorghum fields are being treated for **midge**, but the populations vary widely from field to field. Continue to scout fields daily through the bloom period.

Some sorghum fields also have **stink bugs**, primarily the rice stink bug, and **head worms**. The economic threshold for rice stink bugs is between 0.5 and 1 per head. For head worms, use a threshold of 1 worm, larger than ½ inch, per head.

Scouting for seed feeders in sorghum can be best accomplished by using the beat bucket method. Simply stick 1-2 heads inside a bucket and bang them from side to

side 8-10 times, dislodging all of the insects into the bucket. A modified 2 ½ gallon jug can be useful in preventing stink bugs from escaping prior to counting.

Corn

I am conducting several field trials on **sugarcane borers**. Based on the pupae from the first generation, they should be laying eggs for the next week or two.

In Texas, we have no economic threshold for the sugarcane borer and aren't even sure that it causes economic damage. Louisiana uses the same threshold for sugarcane borers as other stalk borers; they suggest treating post-tassel corn when 25% of plants have larvae that have not yet bored into the stalk.

Precision Ag Expo

Where: Texas Ag Experiment Station

When: June 7, 2006 (All Day Event)

Time: 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. Register & Visit Displays

Registration is \$55. They do accept credit cards if you register online at <http://tppa.tamu.edu> or you can drop by your Extension Office for a Registration Form or you can register on site. Lunch is included with Registration. TDA Commercial Pesticide Applicator and Certified Crop Adviser CEU's will also be available.

Crop Tours Coming Up

Refugio County

June 14, 2006

7:30 a.m. will begin at Canales Restaurant

4:00 p.m. will begin at Bonnie View Park

Victoria County

June 15, 2006

1:30 p.m. will begin at DaCosta Hall

Calhoun County

June 20, 2006

4:00 p.m. will begin at the Bauer Exhibit Building in Port Lavaca

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