

MID-COAST IPM NEWS

Calhoun

Refugio

Victoria

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Soybeans

We have found 0 – 77 stink bugs per 100 sweeps in the sweep net and 0 – 2.05 per foot in beat sheet samples.

A book titled **Sampling Methods in Soybean Entomology** (Kogan and Herzog, 1980) indicates that using a beat sheet is very reliable for determining populations of the southern green stink bug. Comparisons with sweep net sampling indicate that 36 southern green stink bugs per 100 sweeps are similar to 1 bug per foot. However, to increase sampling confidence with a beat sheet, you must increase the number of beat sheet samples.

Data I collected from a project comparing stink bug scouting methods indicates that the two sampling techniques are similar with regard to total stink bug numbers (**Table 1**). However, the sweep net tended to capture more adults than the beat sheet while the opposite was true concerning nymphs. This data was taken from 10 fields in Calhoun and Victoria Counties across two weeks and each field was used as replicate for statistical purposes. I don't currently have a method for distinguishing between the nymphs of green and red-banded stink bugs so I have combined the numbers for the nymphs of these species.

Table 1. Comparison of stink bug sampling methods adjusted to stink bugs per foot.

	<u>All Species</u>			<u>Red Shouldered Stink bugs</u>		
	<u>Adults</u>	<u>Nymphs</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Nymph</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sweep Net	0.78 a	0.15 a	0.935 a	0.34 a	0.12 a	0.46 a
Beat Sheet	0.53 a	0.41 a	0.943 a	0.19 a	0.22 a	0.41 a
LSD (p=0.1)	0.34	0.28	0.22	0.17	0.24	0.32
Trt. Prob.	0.2033	0.1233	0.9482	0.1308	0.4569	0.7572

Means followed by the same letter do not significantly differ (P=0.10, LSD).

This data suggests that either method of sampling should provide an adequate representation of what the field populations is within the limits of sample size. My recommendation for sweep net sampling is to sample 10 sweeps in 10 different locations, increasing the number of sites in fields larger than 150 acres. I would probably double the number of sites when using a beat sheet.

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

Cotton

Continue to scout for worms, stink bugs and aphids. Some fall armyworms are showing up in the fields. Monitor boll damage caused by the armyworms to determine if they are feeding inside the bolls.



Grain Sorghum

Continue scouting sorghum until hard dough. Headworms and stink bugs may damage sorghum until hard dough.



Bermudagrass pastures

Continue to monitor pastures for fall armyworms.

Fall armyworm,
Spodoptera frugiperda (J. E. Smith)
(Lepidoptera: Noctuidae), caterpillar.
Photo by Drees.

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