

MID-COAST IPM NEWS

Calhoun

Refugio

Victoria

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We found a different stink bug in many soybean fields across the area. The Conchuela Stink Bug (*Chlorochroa ligata* (Say)) is similar to the size of the southern green stink bug. The conchuela is a stink bug that varies in color from dull olive to ash gray. The most characteristic markings are orange-red bands along the lateral margins of the thorax and wings and a spot of the same color on the back at the base of the wings.



Conchuela Stink Bug

Photo by Stephen Biles

From the stand point of crop damage, the conchuela stink bug is similar to the southern green stink bug and may feed on a wide range of plants including cotton, sorghum, beans, corn and many other crops. For control measures, treat this insect similar to the southern green.

Cotton

Cotton maturity ranges from 1/3 grown square to early bloom. Cotton fleahoppers are easy to find in many fields. Continue to scout for fleahoppers in squaring cotton. Once the crop has begun to bloom we do not typically consider the cotton fleahopper a pest.



Cotton fleahopper

Photo by Stephen Biles

The primary insect pests of concern for cotton after bloom are aphids, Cotton bollworms, Tobacco budworms, and stink bugs. Aphids are still being found in some fields. Do not make application decisions the first time you see aphids above threshold in your cotton fields. Return to the field in 48 hours to determine the direction of the aphid population. Beneficial insects such as ladybugs, lacewing larvae, syrphid fly larvae, parasitic wasps and fungal pathogens can decimate an aphid population without the need for insecticide applications. The

economic threshold for cotton aphids is 50 aphids per leaf for a growing aphid population.

I anticipate seeing a bollworm egg lay at any time. In addition, other caterpillar pests such as fall armyworms may be laying eggs. **In Bt cotton, treatment with foliar insecticides for tobacco budworm or bollworm 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.**

Grain Sorghum

Stink bugs continue to be found in some milo fields above economic threshold. Monitor sorghum fields for stink bugs and headworms.

Soybeans

We are finding increasing numbers of stink bugs in soybeans. To date we have found southern green, red-banded, brown, conchuela and red shouldered stink bugs in soybean fields. Continue to scout soybeans at least weekly.

Some supporters of YOUR IPM Program are:



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 Farmer's Coop of El Campo
 Danevang Farmer's Coop, Inc.
 Milo Genetics
 Texas Soybean Board

Please show your appreciation to these great organizations.

Important Dates Coming Up

Row Crop Tours

Refugio County Row Crop Tours

June 13, 2007

361-854-4112

Morning Session in Tivoli

Afternoon Session in Bonnieview Park

Calhoun County Row Crop Tour

June 19, 2007

361-552-9747

Bauer Exhibit Building 3:30 pm

Victoria County Row Crop Tour

June 21, 2007

361-575-4581



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