

# Improving Lives. Improving Texas.

**IPM NEWSLETTER MAILING LIST** 

The intent of this newsletter is to provide current information regarding pest activity and pest management strategies to farmers and other interested people. A total of 225 newsletters are mailed out for each edition at a cost of \$0.44 each for stamps.

In order to be more efficient, please contact me if you wish to continue to receive this newsletter by <u>Postal Service mail</u>. I will continue mailing newsletters to those who wish to continue reading this newsletter and those who do not respond will not receive newsletters after June 30.

If you are on the email list, you do not need to contact me to continue the newsletter. Since email has no cost for delivery, this will continue to be the preferred method of delivery.

As always, anyone wishing to receive this newsletter should contact my office to be added to the mailing list.

#### Soybeans

Stink bugs should be showing up in soybeans in the near future. Scout all soybeans after bloom until mature bean. Treatment is recommended when stink bugs exceed 36 bugs per 100 sweeps (24 for Red-Banded Stink bugs).

I have received several calls concerning the proper method of applying Roundup to Roundup Ready soybeans. The assumption was there was a "Yield Drag" associated with Roundup Ready Soybeans.

The following statement is from the Roundup label concerning Roundup Ready Soybeans:

"Applications of this product can be made on Roundup Ready Soybeans from emergence (cracking) through flowering (R2 stage soybeans). R2 stage soybeans ends when a pod 5 millimeters (3/16 inch) long appears at one of the four uppermost nodes on the main stem with a fully developed leaf (R3 Stage)."

According to the Roundup label, Roundup Ready soybeans should not be treated after R3 (beginning pod) has begun. This stage has already occurred in many fields.

I have not seen any research evaluating the effectiveness of products reported to reduce a "Yield Drag" from Roundup application. Variety Trials conducted by James Grichar have not shown any yield drag associated with the genetics but Roundup applications were not always made.







Red-banded Stink Bug

Integrated Pest Management Calhoun, Victoria And Refugio Counties

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#### **Supporters of IPM Program**

Danevang Farmer's Coop, Inc. Farmer's Coop of El Campo Helena Chemical Co. Hlavinka Equipment Company Moreman Community Gin South Texas Cotton & Grain Sorghum Partners Texas Soybean Board Vanderbilt Coop



#### **Grain Sorghum**

The primary pest to watch for in blooming sorghum is the sorghum midge. To determine if adult sorghum midges are in a sorghum field, check at mid-morning when the temperature warms to approximately 85° F when midge adults are most abundant on flowering sorghum grain heads. Because adult sorghum midges live less than 1 day, each day a new brood of adults emerges. Sampling must be done almost daily during the time sorghum grain heads are flowering.

Sorghum midge adults can be seen crawling on or flying about flowering sorghum grain heads. The simplest and most efficient way to detect and count sorghum midges is to inspect carefully and at close range all sides of randomly selected flowering grain heads.

Inspect plants along field borders first; particularly those downwind of earlier flowering sorghum or johnsongrass. If no, or few, sorghum midges are found on sorghum grain heads along field edges, there should be little need to sample the entire field. If you find more than one sorghum midge per flowering grain head in border areas of a sorghum field, inspect the rest of the field. Sample at least 20 flowering grain heads for every 20 acres in a field. For fields smaller than 20 acres, sample 40 flowering grain heads.



SORGHUM MIDGE

Table 1. Estimated economic injury levels for sorghum midge for a range of factors.

Control cost, \$/acre	Crop value, \$100 lbs	Economic injury level— mean number of midges/flowering head		
		Flowering heads = 18,000/acre	Flowering heads = 45,000/acre	Flowering heads= 67,500/acre
5	6	1.6	0.6	0.4
5	7	1.3	0.5	0.34
5	8	1.2	0.5	0.3
6	6	1.9	0.8	0.5
6	7	1.6	0.7	0.4
6	8	1.4	0.6	0.35
7	6	2.2	0.85	0.6
7	7	1.9	0.75	0.5
7	8	1.6	0.65	0.45

## Cotton

Cotton fleahoppers continue to be found populations ranging from 5-127 adult and nymph fleahoppers per 100 plants. The insecticides are working but the constant inflow of adults has meant that most fields have required multiple applications for control.

We are conducting several trials for cotton fleahoppers. One of these tests should shed some light on the importance of treating

## **2010 ROW CROP TOURS**

## **REFUGIO COUNTY CROP TOUR - (361) 526-2825** WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2010 7:30 AM @ CANALES CAFÉ - AUSTWELL / TIVOLI AND 4:00 PM @ BONNIE VIEW PARK

CALHOUN COUNTY FIELD CROP TOUR - (361) 552-9747

TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2010 @ 3:30 PM @ Moreman Gin

VICTORIA COUNTY FIELD CROP TOUR - (361) 575-4581 THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2010 1:30 PM @ SONS OF HERMANN HALL IN DACOSTA