



## Cotton Insect Newsletter

Letter #8

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

22 June 2006

### Newsletter Archives

Previous newsletters for 2006 are archived at <http://www.clemson.edu/edisto/cotton/cotton.htm>. Please distribute hard copies or electronic newsletter files to all interested, and please provide weekly input for the newsletter. Your observations and local knowledge are important – email or phone in your comments to me!

Jeremy Greene

[greene4@clemson.edu](mailto:greene4@clemson.edu)

803-284-3343

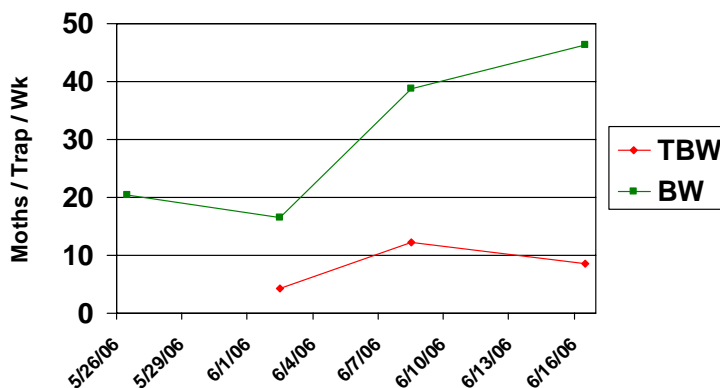
### Crop Situation

On 18 June 2006, the NASS had our progress at 26% squaring, just ahead of the 5-yr average of 21%. Only 2% of the state's cotton crop was reported to be in excellent condition. The remainder was reported as 39% good, 54% fair, 5% poor, and 0% very poor – things have improved a little from last week. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

### Tobacco Budworm & Bollworm

Trap captures are up for bollworm and slightly down for tobacco budworm. We need to closely monitor the crop for heliothines, especially where tobacco budworm and bollworm continue to be important – non-Bt and 1<sup>st</sup>-generation Bt cotton, respectively. Two-gene cotton (Bollgard II and WideStrike) should be pretty safe from caterpillar damage. However, IT IS NOT 100% - YOU STILL NEED TO CHECK IT!

Pheromone Trap Capture (EREC - 2006)



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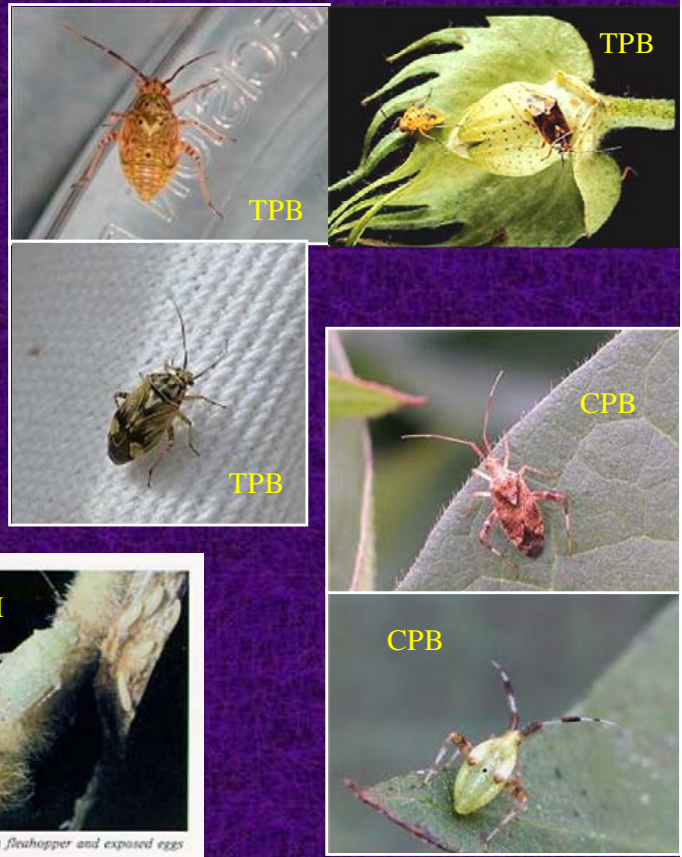
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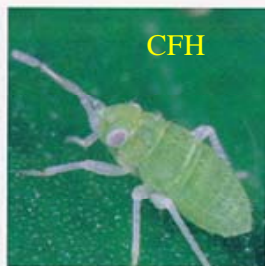
### Sucking Bugs (Stink Bugs & Plant Bugs)

We are getting closer to “bug” season. Before we know it we will be treating for stink bugs/plant bugs. Proper identification of sucking bugs is important because thresholds and appropriate insecticides vary between species. Here are some pictures of common plant bugs and stink bugs – both immatures and adults – and some of the damage they cause. We will continue to touch on bugs from now till harvest.

- Tarnished plant bug (TPB)  
(*Lygus lineolaris*)
- Clouded plant bug (CPB)  
(*Neurocolpus nubilus*)
- Cotton fleahopper (CFH)  
(*Pseudatomoscelis seriatus*)



Adult cotton fleahopper



Cotton fleahopper nymph (immature)



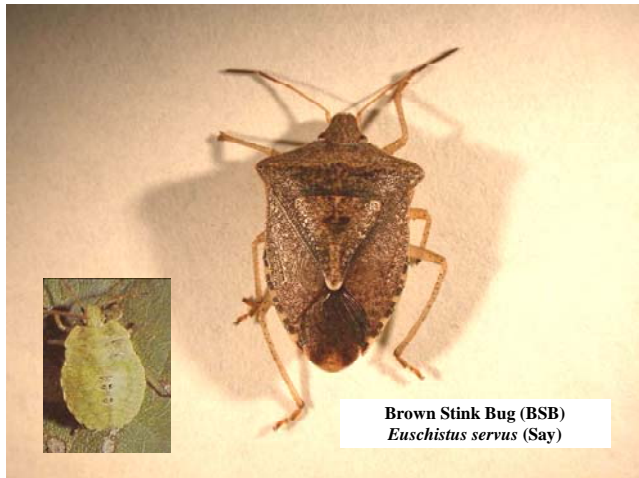
Adult cotton fleahopper and exposed eggs



**Green Stink Bug (GSB)**  
*Acrosternum hilare* (Say)



**Southern Green Stink Bug (SGSB)**  
*Nezara viridula* (L.)



**Brown Stink Bug (BSB)**  
*Euschistus servus* (Say)



**Leaffooted Bug**



Boll injury caused by stink bugs.



Square loss caused by plant bugs.

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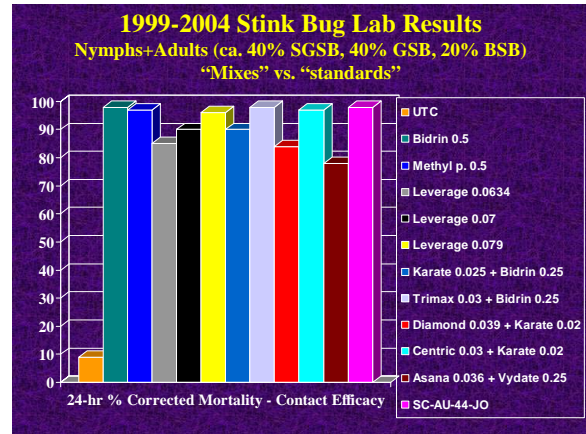
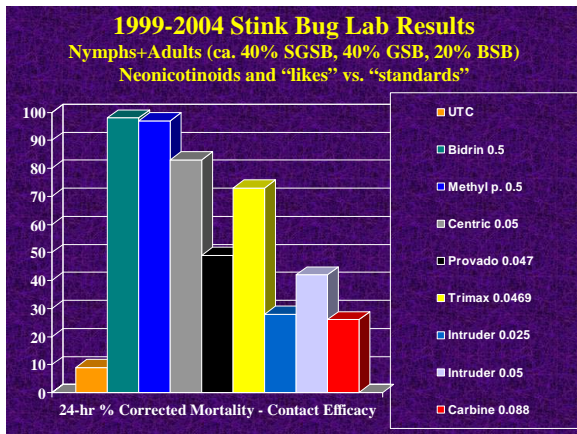
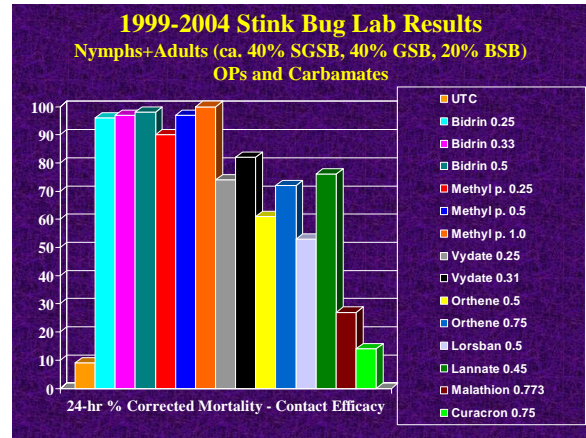
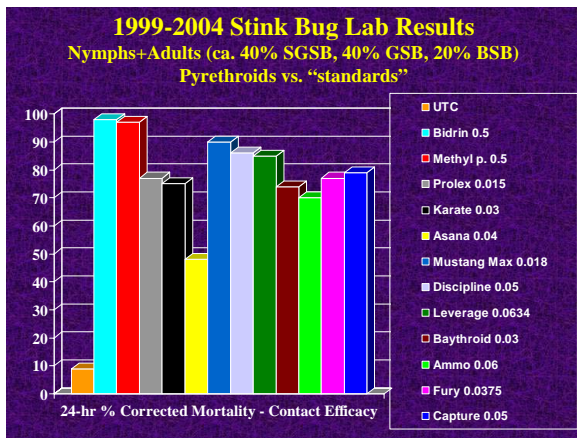
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Below are some charts with summarized data from insecticide efficacy tests with stink bugs conducted during a 6-year period. The insecticides were applied topically in the laboratory, as shown below.

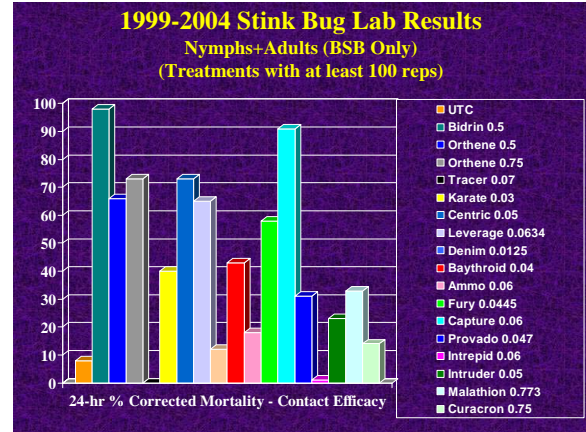
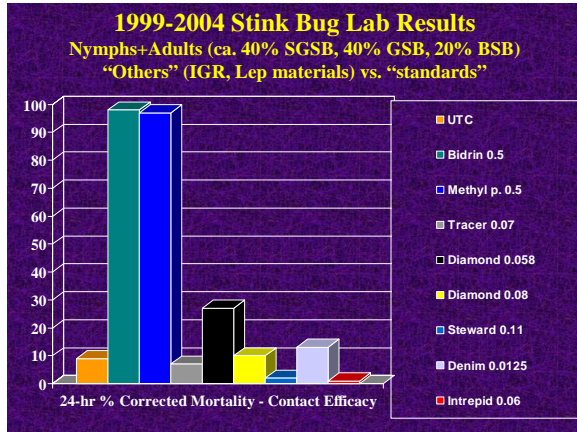


The results presented here show mortality 24 hr after application. Many of the materials are contact insecticides, but some may have additional activity (i.e. residual, systemic, etc.) not represented in these data. Furthermore, statistical analyses have not been applied to these data. Any perceived disparity in control may or may not be a "real" difference.



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Scouting for bugs should include a drop cloth and sampling fruiting forms for injury or signs of feeding. Counts of square retention can show signs of early bug injury from plant bugs or stink bugs. If square retention drops below 75%, there could be a problem with insects. After cotton starts to bloom, you can detect bug presence by looking at blooms and looking for "dirty blooms" (where insects have left feeding injury and frass). Later in the season, boll examination will aid in determining if threshold numbers of stink bugs are present. If more than 20% of bolls display feeding symptoms from bugs, treatment will likely be justified. We will continue to cover these issues in subsequent newsletters.



**News from Above the Lakes**

No news to report this week. This is your turn for input – send your comments and observations to me.

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### **Need More Information?**

Log on to the following webpage to view important cotton management recommendations, data, and historical cotton insect newsletters: <http://www.clemson.edu/scg/ipm/cotton.html>

To see cotton insect newsletters for this year, go to the following webpage to view the cotton page at the Edisto Research & Education Center. <http://www.clemson.edu/edisto/cotton/cotton.htm>

We will continue to update this webpage in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.  
Cotton Entomologist



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