



Cotton Insect Newsletter

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Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

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Newsletter Update

This is the third cotton insect newsletter of 2008. If you missed the first two, they are archived at <http://www.clemson.edu/edisto/cotton/cotton.htm>, along with newsletters from previous seasons. Please distribute copies of this newsletter to all interested parties, and please provide input for the newsletter. Again, because of increased soybean acreage, I am going to include information on insects important in soybeans in this year's newsletter. Please include cotton and soybean insects in your comments to me each week.

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Status of Cotton Crop

As of 18 May 2008, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 56% of the crop being planted, just behind the 5-yr average of 61%. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

Status of Soybean Crop & Insects

Planting information is not available from the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office at this point, but approximately 530,000 acres are listed in the planting intentions.

I have received questions about grasshoppers in seedling soybeans recently and have seen other reports on them. There are various materials that will provide control of grasshoppers. Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban 4E, etc.) is an excellent option for small (≤ 0.5 inch) grasshoppers at 0.5 pint/acre. Use 1 pint/acre for larger (> 0.5 inch) grasshoppers to get control. The pyrethroids will provide good control as well, and the rate will also be dependent on the size of grasshoppers. Control grasshoppers only when a large percentage of the stand is threatened and damage/plant loss is observed. Maintain the appropriate plant population, and be particularly aware of potential problems with grasshoppers on seedling soybeans in reduced tillage systems. The same goes for cotton and grasshoppers!

News from Above the Lakes

No news this week. Please send me your observations and comments!

News from Below the Lakes

Tommy Walker, county agriculture agent in Hampton County, reported that he has observed some herbicide injury ("rain-splashed" with Reflex) and some sand blasting on seedling cotton. Let's be aware of the various

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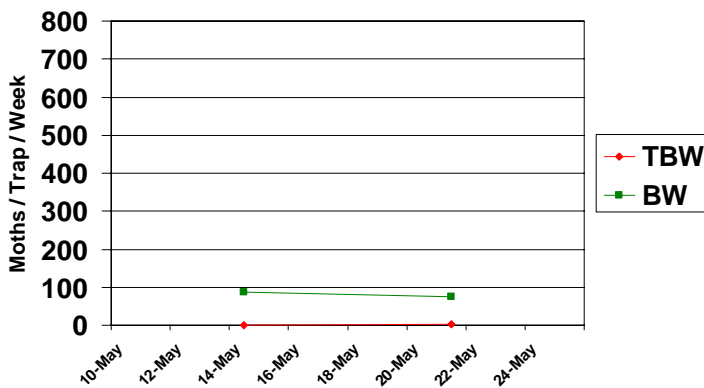


injury symptoms that will be manifested in seedling cotton. Among other things, we can have injury or stunting from thrips, nematodes, herbicides, wind, other insects, etc.

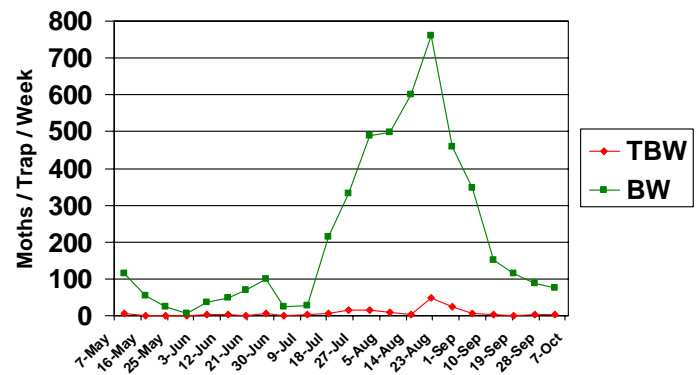
Tobacco Budworm & Bollworm

Captures of adult tobacco budworm and bollworm in pheromone traps at EREC for this season and last season are pictured below. We caught 28 tobacco budworm moths in a couple of traps this last week. I believe that is more than we caught all of last year! The scales on the 2008 and 2007 charts are the same to illustrate where we are compared with last year.

Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2008 (EREC)



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2007 (EREC)



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>

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.
Cotton Entomologist