



## *Cotton Insect Newsletter*

Volume 3, Issue #14

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

14 August 2008

### **Fall Field Day (\*\*Reminder\*\*)**

Our annual Fall Field Day will be held at the Edisto Research and Education Center near Blackville, SC, on 4 September 2007. Registration will begin at 9:00AM. Tours and programs will begin at 9:30AM. Lunch will be from 12:00 to 1:15PM. The cotton/soybean/corn program will be immediately after lunch (1:30-3:30PM).

Here is a short version of the program:

**9:00 – Noon** **Registration**

**9:30 – Noon** **Peanut Tour**

**9:30 – Noon** **Beef Cattle Tour**

**Noon – 1:15** **Lunch and Indoor Program**

**1:30 – 3:30** **Corn, Cotton & Soybean Tour**

### **Status of Cotton Crop**

As of 10 August 2008, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 100% squaring, just ahead of the 5-yr average of 98%. About 78% of the crop is setting bolls, ahead of the 5-yr average of 69%. No bolls were reported opening, but our 5-yr average is 2% open at this point. Only 1% of the state's cotton crop was reported to be in excellent condition. The remainder was reported as 32% good, 39% fair, 18% poor, and 10% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

### **Status of Soybean Crop**

As of 11 August 2008, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our conditions for soybeans at 11% very poor, 24% poor, 42% fair, 20% good, and 3% excellent.

### **News from Above the Lakes**

No news to report this week. This is your turn for input – please email your comments/observations to me.

### **News from Below the Lakes**

A local consultant reported that most of the April-planted cotton he is checking is about finished – May-planted fields are still going. Bollgard cotton received only 1 insecticide application for stink bugs and bollworm, except for one field that had fall armyworms that received another application. Another consultant is reporting another round of bollworms under purple dried bloom tags in Bollgard (DP555). He is spraying those fields again for bollworm and stink bugs. The non-Bt cotton that he is checking is being treated for the 4<sup>th</sup> time this week, with egg numbers around 60-100 per 100 plants.

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**Stink Bugs**

Below are some data from a test I conducted here on the Edisto REC looking at residual efficacy of two commonly used insecticides in cotton. We tied on large polyester net cages that covered the top 4-5 nodes of cotton plants (see photos below), folded them down, and sprayed plots with either Bidrin at 0.5 lb ai/a or Karate Z at 0.04 lb ai/z (highest labeled rates of each insecticide). We left some plots untreated for controls.

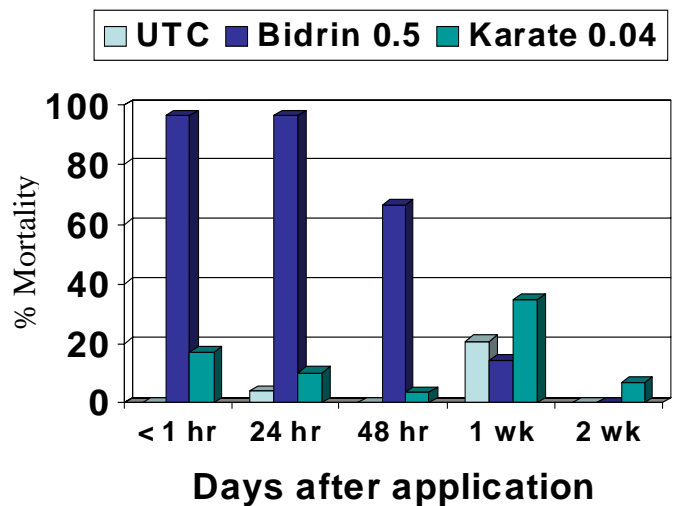


We infested the cages with brown stink bugs (BSB), southern green stink bugs (SGSB), and leaffooted bugs (LFB) to test residual control at varying times after insecticide application. The results indicated that you get about 2 days worth of residual out of Bidrin on all 3 species, then basically nothing. You can expect up to a week of residual out of Karate on LFB and SGSB, then nothing, although control mortality was higher at this time. I have other data that indicate that LFB tolerate pyrethroids, so that was a “head scratcher”. Karate offered little control of BSB from the beginning. This is to be expected of all pyrethroids – little control of BSB. The take home message is that the pyrethroids do provide a good residual that gives us control of bugs after the initial spray. OPs such as Bidrin give excellent control of stink bugs (all species) immediately after spraying and perhaps up to a day or two – but don’t expect more than that.



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**Residual Efficacy (Adult BSB)**



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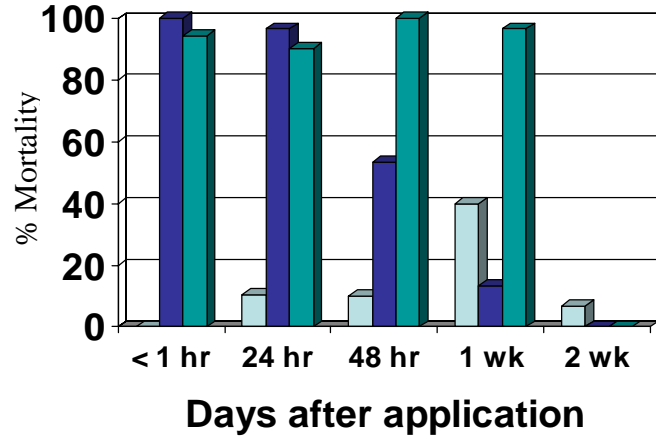
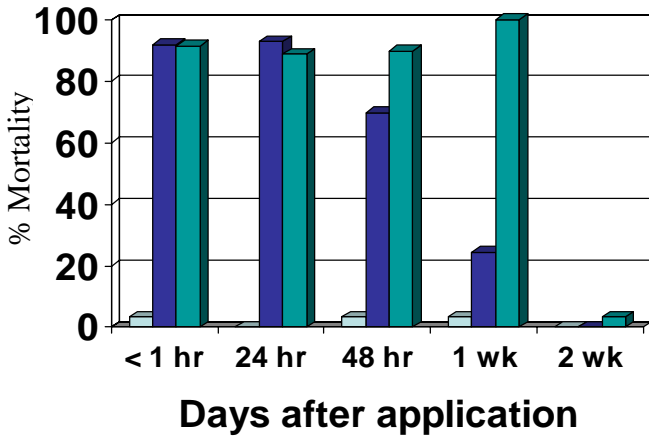


### Residual Efficacy (Adult SGSB)

### Residual Efficacy (Adult LFB)

UTC Bidrin 0.5 Karate 0.04

UTC Bidrin 0.5 Karate 0.04



### Tobacco Budworm & Bollworm

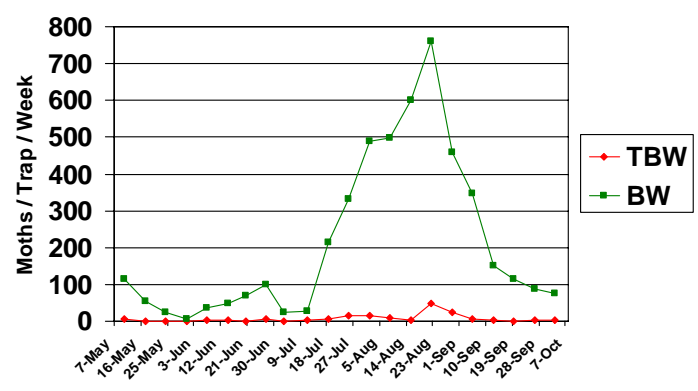
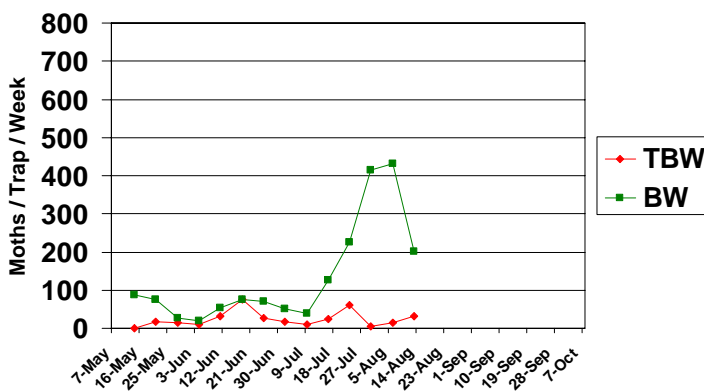
Captures of adult tobacco budworm (TBW) and bollworm (BW) in pheromone traps at EREC this season and last season are pictured below. The scales on the 2008 and 2007 charts are the same to illustrate where we are compared with last year. We observed reduced captures of bollworm moths and increased captures of tobacco budworm this past week. Perhaps the cooler temperatures and general rainfall impacted pheromone captures. It would not surprise me at all if bollworm captures were very high next week.



Bollworm (left) and tobacco budworm (right)

Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2008 (EREC)

Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2007 (EREC)



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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>

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.  
Cotton Entomologist



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