



## *Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter*

Volume 4, Issue #3

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

21 May 2009

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### **Pest Patrol Hotline**

A summary of current problems with insects is available this season via a toll-free hotline. Simply call the free number (877) 285-8525 and select the messages you would like to hear. I will update the short message weekly for at least as long as the newsletter runs. The hotline is sponsored by Syngenta Crop Science.

### **Cotton Situation**

Cotton planting has been delayed due to wet conditions in many parts of the state. As of 17 May 2009, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 38% of the crop being planted, well behind where we were at 52% last year and the 5-yr average of 60%. Conditions were described as 70% good, 29% fair, and 1% excellent for the crop. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

### **Soybean Situation**

Soybean planting is also somewhat behind schedule due to the wet conditions. As of 17 May 2009, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 17% of the crop being planted, just behind where we were at 25% in 2008 and the 5-yr average of 26%. About 5% of soybeans have emerged, about half of where the crop was this time last year (10%) and close to the 5-yr average emergence (6%). These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

### **Pest Management Handbook and Insect Control Guides**

The 2009 Pest Management Handbook is ready and available in limited quantities. Contact your local county office for availability. A \$10 fee might be charged for the handbook. You can also download the handbook from: <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/index.html>

Clemson University Publications IC97 (Cotton Insect Management) and SL1 (Soybean Insect Management) are available free from your local county office in paper copy or online at:

<http://www.clemson.edu/psapublishing/pages/ENTOM/IC97.PDF> and

<http://www.clemson.edu/psapublishing/pages/AGRO/SL1.PDF>

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

No news to report this week. Please email or call me with your observations and comments by Wednesday!  
THESE SECTIONS ARE YOUR SECTIONS FOR SHARING OBSERVATIONS!

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## Tobacco Budworm & Bollworm

Captures of tobacco budworm (TBW) and bollworm (BW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season and last seasons are presented. The scales on the charts are the same to illustrate where we are compared with last year. We trapped about 30 BW moths and 2.5 TBW moths per trap this past week. That is about the same number as captured last week. Undoubtedly, the cooler temperatures are “slowing down” insects.

## Early-Season Insect Issues

Things continue to remain quiet because we are behind in planting and getting the season going. Much cotton and soybeans remain to be planted. Fields that are planted and emerged are struggling with the cooler temperatures. I would expect thrips injury will become a concern next week on cotton if temperatures do not increase. Also, I have noticed a lot of grasshoppers on field borders this year, so be aware.

## Need More Information?

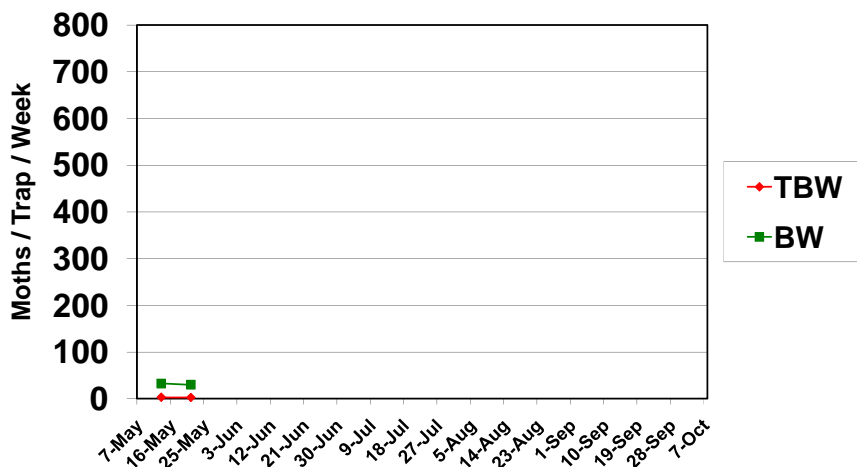
Log on to the following webpage to view important recommendations for cotton and soybean insect management, data, and historical cotton insect newsletters:

<http://www.clemson.edu/edisto/cotton/cotton.htm>

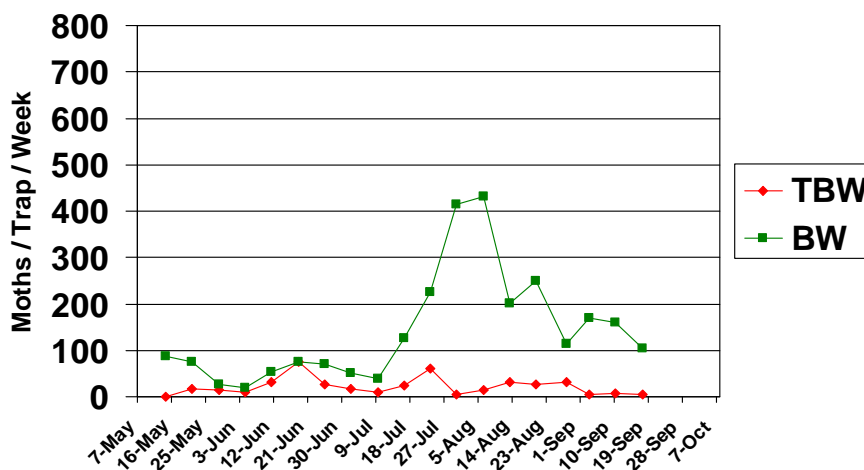
Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor – Entomologist

### Pheromone Trap Capture SC – 2009 (EREC)



### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2008 (EREC)



BW

TBW