Pest Patrol Alerts
There was a disruption in text alerts sent out recently, so, if you have not received text alerts from the Pest Patrol program this year and you had previously and want to continue receiving them, go through the steps below again. This is not required, if you have been receiving Pest Patrol texts this season for my recorded messages. Thanks.
Some of the information contained herein each issue is available via text alerts that direct users to online recordings. I will update the short message often for at least as long as the newsletter runs. After a new message is posted, a text message is sent to alert users that I have recorded a new update. Users can subscribe for text message alerts for my updates in two easy steps. Step one: register by texting pestpat7 to 97063. Step two: reply to the confirmation text you receive by texting the letter “y” to complete your registration. Pest Patrol Alerts are sponsored by Syngenta.

Updates on Twitter
When noteworthy events happen the in the field, I will be sending them out quickly via Twitter. If you want to follow those quick updates, follow me at @bugdocisin on Twitter.

News from Around the State
Joe Varn, county agent in Barnwell County, reported some deer damage in seedling cotton this past week. I was told this field had aldicarb (AgLogic) at planting, so this is disturbing.

Cotton Situation
As of 12 June 2022, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 96% of the crop has been planted by this week, compared with 92% planted the previous week, 94% at this time last year, and 94% for the 5-year average. About 3% of the crop is squaring, compared with 1% the previous week, 9% at this time last year, and 11% for the 5-year average. The conditions of the crop were 7% excellent, 49% good, 40% fair, 4% poor, and 0% very poor. These are reported statewide averages.
**Cotton Insects**

All of the sweet corn I shucked on Wednesday evening had large corn earworms (CEW) in the ear tips. So, take that information for what it is. As you know, this generation develops in corn as CEW, the larvae pupate in the soil, moths emerge and fly to cotton to lays eggs that feed on cotton as bollworm. We are growing a lot of bollworm in the system right now, and, if we don’t have some non-Bt refuge corn out there, most of the surviving CEW will likely be resistant to Bt proteins (used in corn and cotton). Those resistant moths will mate with other resistant moths, and their offspring, hatching out from eggs deposited in cotton, will inherit the genes for resistance. Producers are supposed to plant 20% of their corn acres to non-Bt refuge varieties, so there are susceptible moths mating with the resistant moths, resulting in a “dilution” of the resistance genes. Also, I noticed considerable reproduction by stink bugs in corn. Pictured to the right are immatures of the southern green stink bug just hatched out from an egg mass. They were abundant and easy to find in the field this morning.

I have not noticed spider mites of any concern yet, and populations of aphids are building but not abundant yet. The very high numbers of plant bugs we observed last week were down this week but still near threshold. We should continue to monitor square retention and use a sweep net in each field to look for plant bugs until we get to the second week of bloom. At that point, our monitoring and treating for stink bugs should take care of most issues with plant bugs.

I did notice a good population of natural enemies in the field this week, with notable species like spiders, ants,
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Public Service Activities

The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.
**Soybean Situation**
As of 12 June 2022, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 82% of the crop has been planted this week, compared with 67% planted the previous week, 88% at this time last year, and 73% for the 5-year average. About 65% of the crop has emerged, compared with 40% the previous week, 80% at this time last year, and 55% for the 5-year average. The conditions of the crop were 10% excellent, 68% good, 22% fair, 0% poor, and 0% very poor. These are reported statewide averages.

**From the SC Soybean Specialist (Dr. Michael Plumblee)**
Michael kept it short this week, stating it is “hot and dry” in the southern portion of the state.

**Soybean Insects**
I received several reports of false chinch bugs (FCB) being numerous on seedling soybeans. **William Hardee**, county agent covering Horry and Marion Counties, sent the photos of FCB below. Populations of these insects can seem to get out of control, especially when it is hot and dry, and the plants are stressed. In most cases, FCB are not an economic issue.

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<th>April</th>
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<td>SOYBEAN</td>
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<td>grasshoppers, other misc. defoliators</td>
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<td>kudzu bugs</td>
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<td>green cloverworm</td>
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<td>soybean looper</td>
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<td>velvetbean caterpillar</td>
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*Public Service Activities*

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The figure below is for much later in the season, but it stays here as a reminder to learn how to identify larvae and adults (moths).

As moth activity increases, deposited eggs will yield caterpillar pests on soybeans. It is good skill to be able to identify adult moths flying around in fields. Use this chart to study moth and caterpillar identification.
**Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm**

Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2007-2020 for reference. Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for any acres of non-Bt cotton. I provide these data as a measure of moth presence and activity in our local area near my research plots. The numbers are not necessarily representative of the species throughout the state but are useful for general trends.

![Graphs showing moth captures](image)

Numbers of TBW moths low again this past week but BW numbers are inching up

Traps data from 2007-2020 are shown below for reference to other years of trapping data from EREC:

![Graphs showing moth captures](image)
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Pest Management Handbook – 2022
Insect control recommendations are available online in the 2022 South Carolina Pest Management Handbook at:
https://www.clemson.edu/extension/agronomy/pestmanagment2022/2022pmhmaster.pdf

South Carolina Crops Blog
The SC Crops Blog contains content about production of major row crops at the following link, if you want more information: https://blogs.clemson.edu/sccrops/
Archived issues of the Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter can be viewed at a convenient link on the SCCrops page. Contact Dr. Michael Plumblee, if you have any questions about the blog.

Free Mobile Apps: “Calibrate My Sprayer” and “Mix My Sprayer”
Download our free mobile apps called “Calibrate My Sprayer” and “Mix My Sprayer” that help check for proper calibration of spraying equipment and help you with mixing user-defined pesticides, respectively, in custom units (available in both iOS and Android formats):
http://www.clemson.edu/extension/mobile-apps/

Need More Information?
For more Clemson University Extension information: http://www.clemson.edu/extension/
For historical cotton/soybean insect newsletters:
https://www.clemson.edu//extension/agronomy/cotton1/newsletters.html

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.
Professor of Entomology