



## *Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter*

Volume 11, Issue #6

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

10 June 2016

### **Pest Patrol Hotline**

The information contained herein each week is available via a toll-free hotline. I will update the short message weekly for at least as long as the newsletter runs. Call the free number (877) 285-8525 and select the messages you would like to hear. Select #1 for updates from the Southern Region. Select #3 for the Southeast, and then select #1 to hear my message. After a new message is on the hotline, a text message alert can be sent alerting 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. The hotline is sponsored by Syngenta.

### **Updates on Twitter**

When noteworthy events happen 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**

Justin Ballew, county agent covering Marion and Dillon Counties, reported that he “swept some beans yesterday and found plenty of Japanese beetles and tarnished plant bugs. I saw a couple of real small caterpillars as well. Not much to speak of in cotton yet, other than some thrips, but pressure seems to be decreasing.” I have also observed numerous Japanese beetles around (nothing in crops...just saw them in the landscape). Also, I am seeing plenty of corn earworms in developing ears of non-Bt corn at Edisto, and while checking those ear tips, it was very easy to spot several stink bugs running around. I did not have to even look for the stink bugs, and they were easy to spot. So, be aware that stink bugs are building up on corn and will be ready for soybeans and cotton when the time comes.



### **Cotton Situation**

As of 5 June 2016, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 88% of the crop has been planted, compared with 84% at this time last year and 90% for the 5-year average. About 1% of the crop was reported as squaring, compared with 0% at this time last year and 2% for the 5-year average. The crop was described as 3% excellent, 38% good, 59% fair, 0% poor, and 0% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

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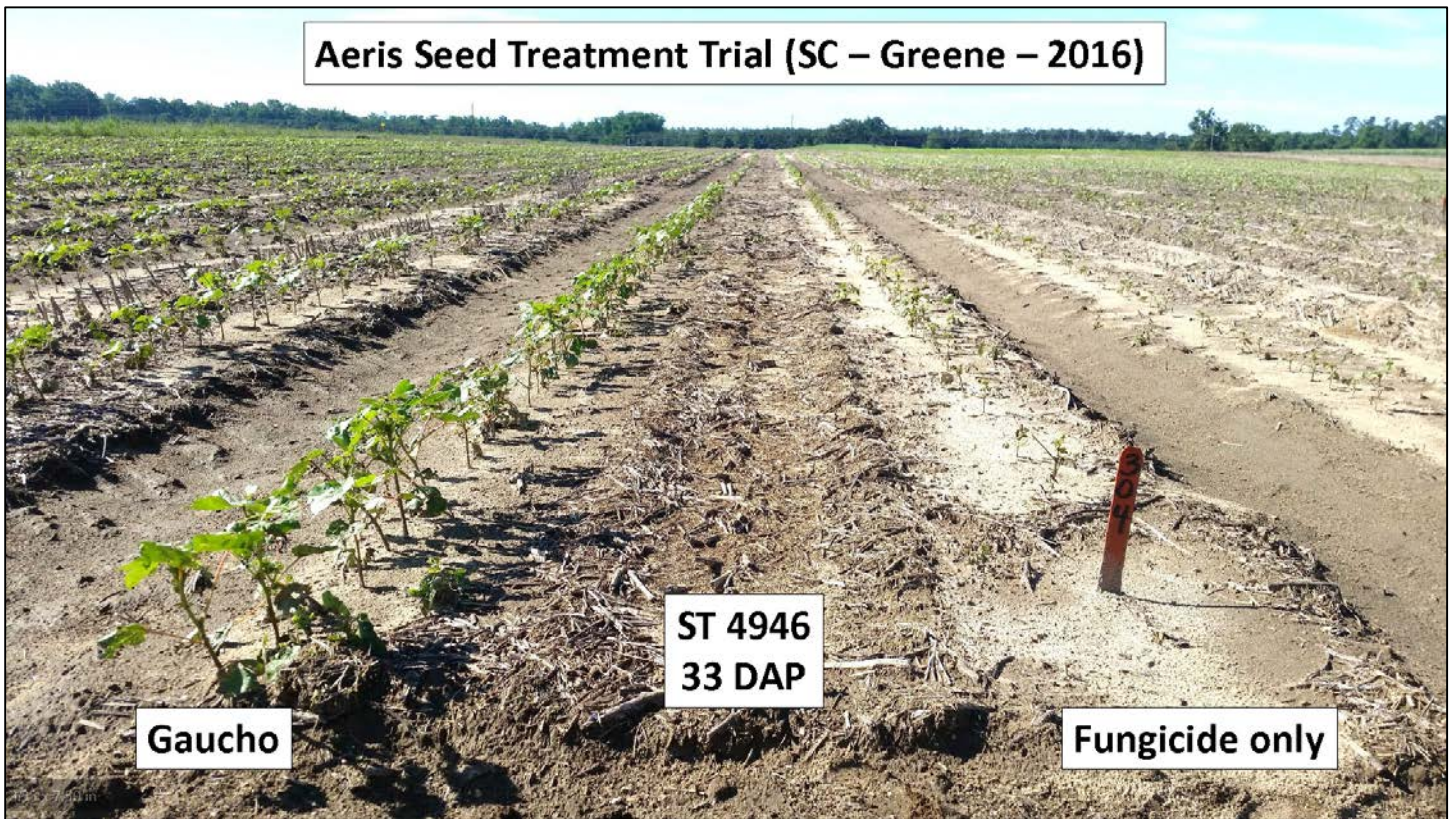
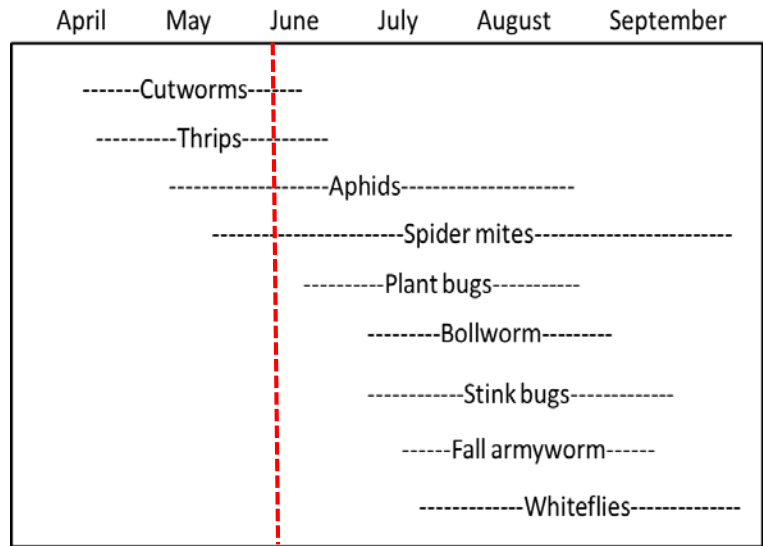
*Public Service Activities*

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.



## Cotton Insects

As we are getting past thrips “season” in cotton, I thought that I would share some visual evidence of what we have experienced in my research plots here at Edisto this year. The photo below is from a seed treatment trial with the components of Aeris that shows how Gaucho (the imidacloprid portion of Aeris) performed compared with an untreated control (fungicide only on seed). At about one month after planting, the results are striking. We continue to take injury from thrips in some of our later planted cotton, so the window for thrips injury seems to be an extended one this season for us, despite the heavy rain events that typically reduce populations of thrips.



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Here is a sad looking stand of 4-leaf cotton from one of my trials this season. In this variety test for susceptibility to thrips, the plants are water-logged from excessive rain and tattered from thrips feeding.

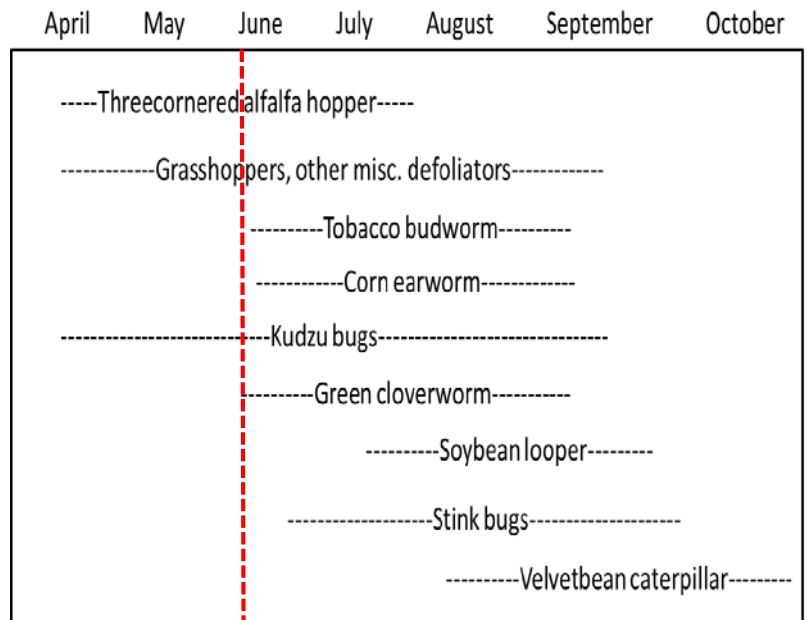


### Soybean Situation

As of 5 June 2016, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 65% of our soybean crop has been planted, compared with 50% this time last year and 62% for the 5-year average. About 45% of the crop has emerged, compared with 39% this time last year and 46% for the 5-year average. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

### Soybean Insects

Other than the limited observations of Japanese beetles on soybeans, there is not much going on regarding insects right now. That will change soon, I'm sure. Stay tuned.



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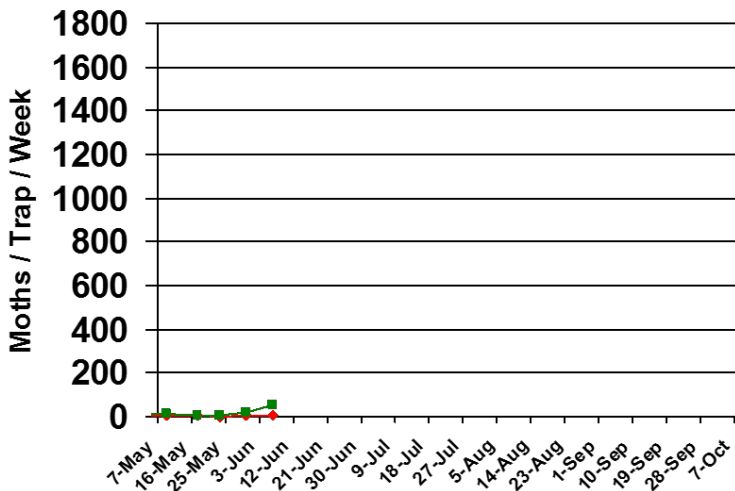
## Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm



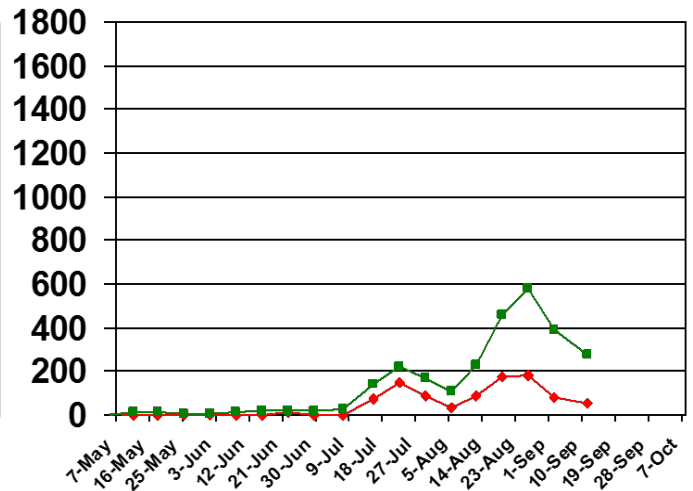
Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2015 for reference. Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for any acres of non-Bt cotton. I provide these data as a measure of moth presence and activity in our local area near my research plots. The numbers are not necessarily representative of the species throughout the state.



### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2016

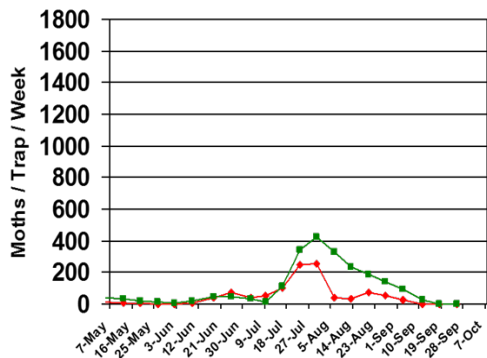


### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2015

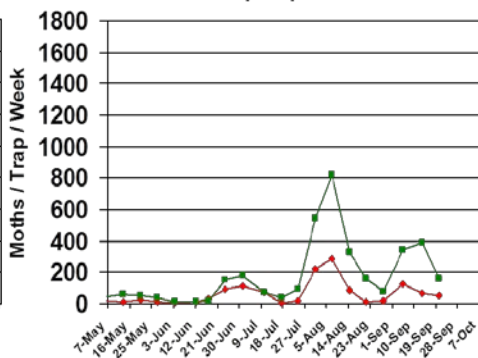


Trap data from 2012-2014 are shown below for reference to other recent years of trapping data from EREC:

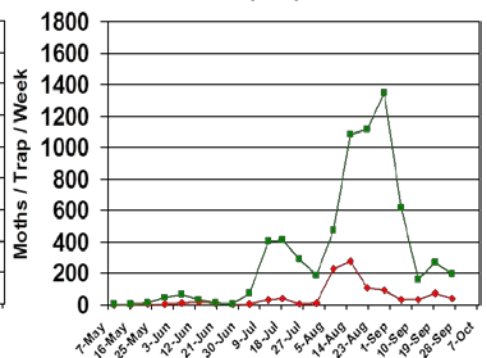
### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2014



### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2013



### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2012



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### **Pest Management Handbook - 2016**

Insect control recommendations are available online in the 2016 South Carolina Pest Management Handbook at: <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/pest/>

### **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:

[http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/cotton/pest\\_management/newsletters/index.html](http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/cotton/pest_management/newsletters/index.html)

Sincerely,

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



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