



## *Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter*

Volume 11, Issue #7

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

17 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*

Collins Gardner, an experienced crop consultant in SC, reported that he knows of growers that are spraying acephate (Orthene, etc.) on cotton that is beyond the 4-leaf stage, primarily because they are going across it with an herbicide application. Collins is concerned that these growers are wasting their money on the insecticide and that problems with aphids and spider mites might be hastened with this addition of acephate. I completely agree with him. This “revenge” spraying is a waste of money, and it does set you up for potential problems with secondary pests. Symptoms of thrips feeding injury can stay with a young plant on the older leaves, even after the thrips are gone. The new leaves likely look good on most cotton right now as numbers of tobacco thrips decline, but the older leaves can still look ragged. The late spraying does not make the cotton look better – the cotton simply growing is what makes it look better. There are copious amounts of data to support that spraying for thrips after cotton has 4 or 5 leaves on it does not pay for itself, so don’t waste your money on those late sprays. So, if it doesn’t pay for itself and might cost you a bunch more for control of mites/aphids, why do it? Save that money for something else that is actually needed and maybe save yourself additional money and from headaches that could occur if you “revenge” spray.

### *Cotton Situation*

As of 12 June 2016, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 93% of the crop has been planted, compared with 90% at this time last year and 94% for the 5-year average. About 5% of the crop was reported as squaring, compared with 8% at this time last year and 7% for the 5-year average. The crop was described as 3% excellent, 40% good, 57% fair, 0% poor, and 0% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

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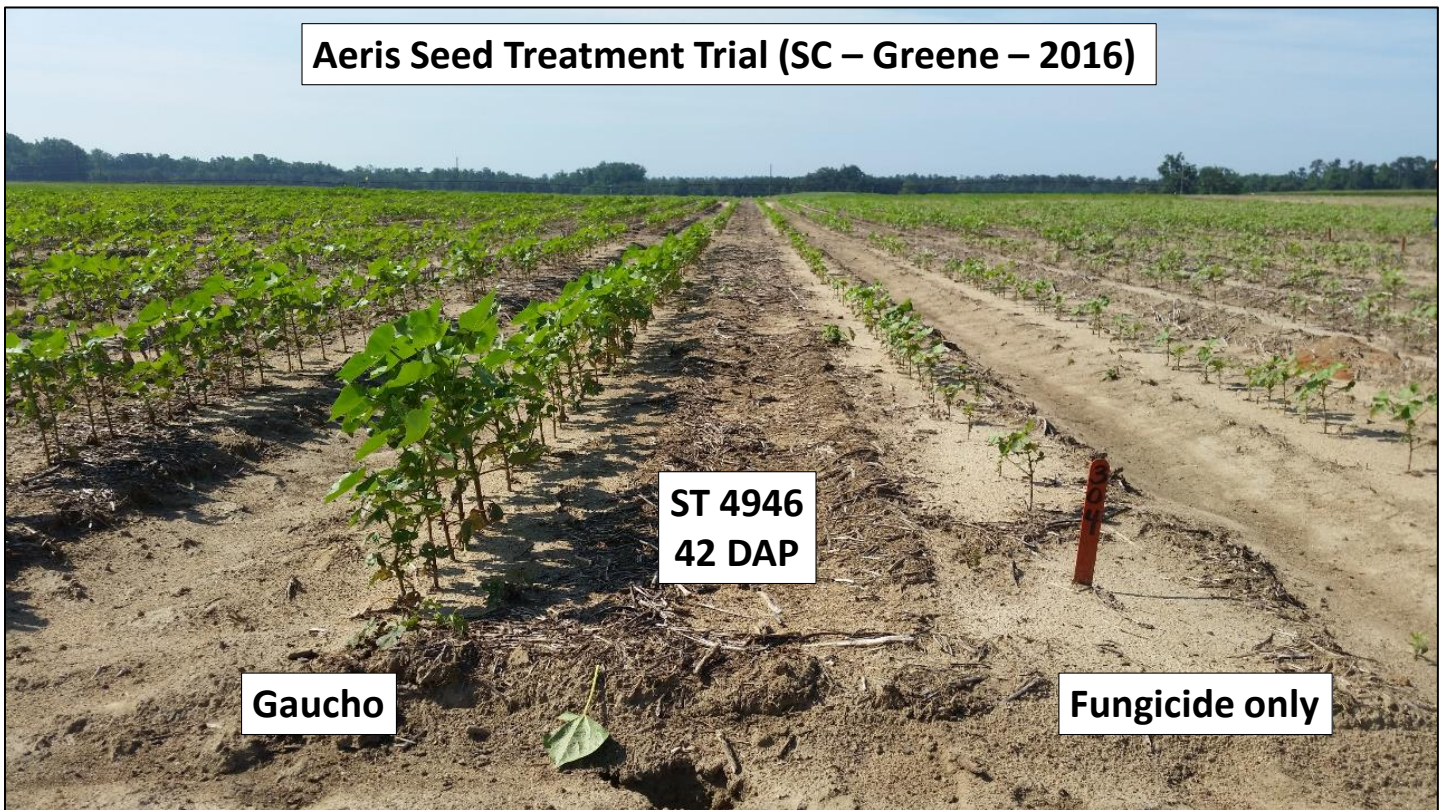
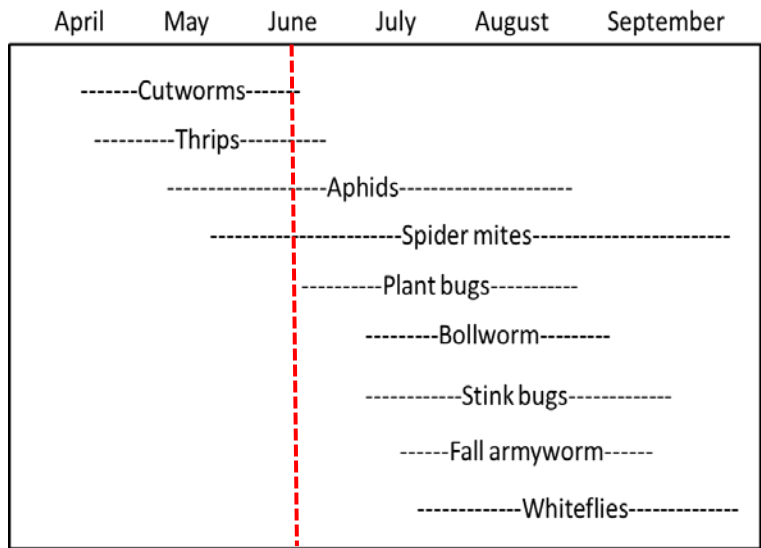
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## Cotton Insects

We are pretty much done with thrips. We talked about late sprays for thrips above. Let's avoid that. The damage they did was extensive in some places, but, even on some of my plots with seed treated with fungicide only, they did not kill the plants. Below is a follow-up photo (to last week) of imidacloprid (Gaucho) as a seed treatment compared with seed treated with a fungicide only at 42 DAP. We took biomass ratings in this trial today, so those should show some good differences. We will see if the injury translates into yield losses or delayed maturity at harvest time. The slide on the following page shows Aeris compared with fungicide only.

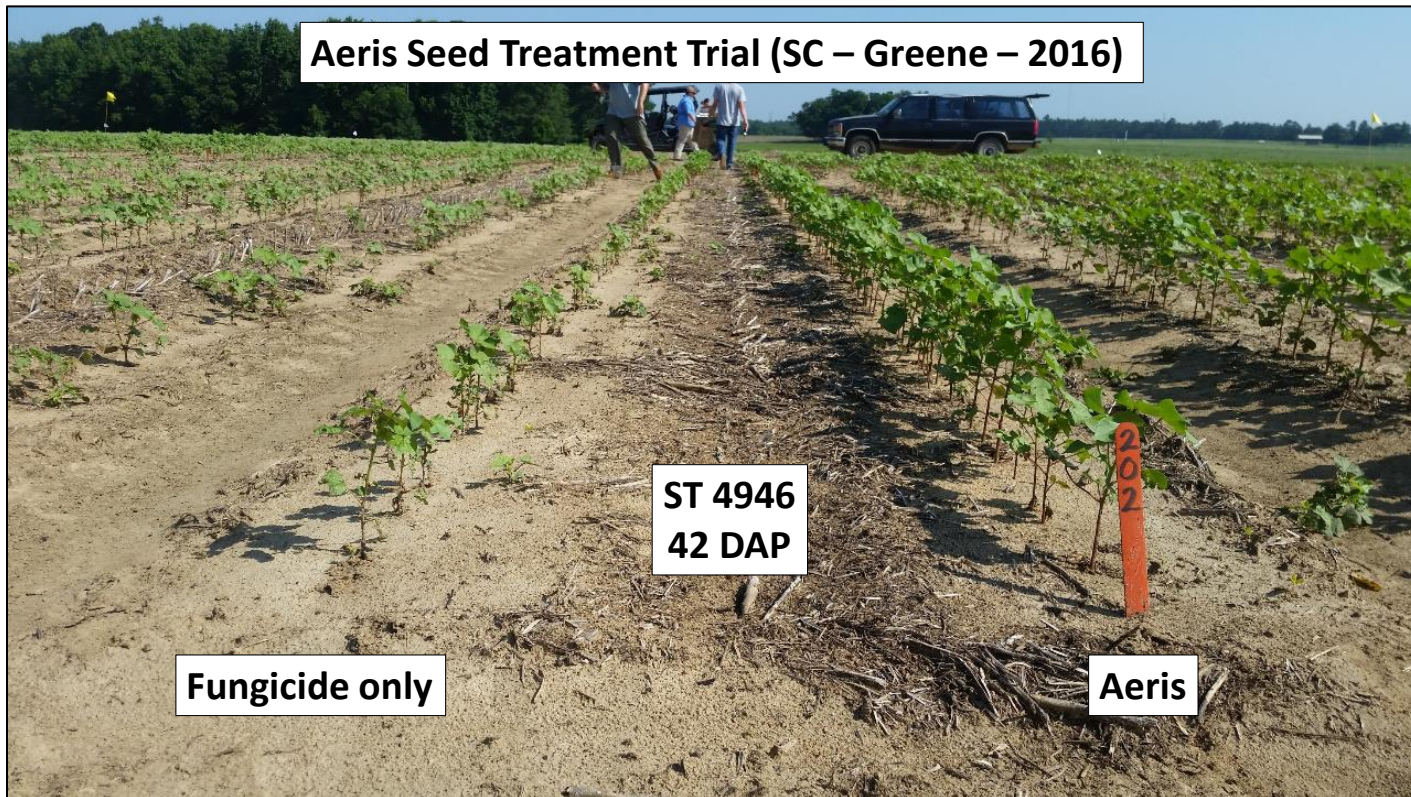


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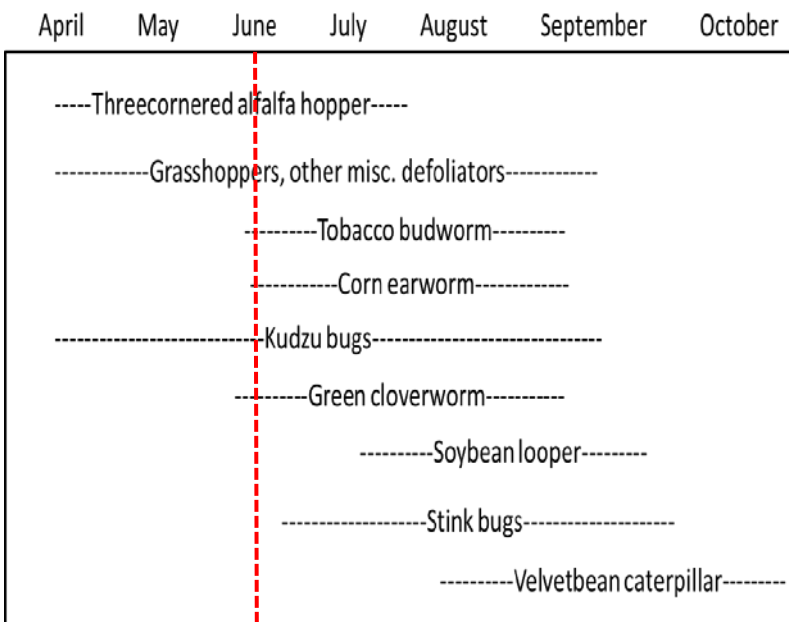


### Soybean Situation

As of 12 June 2016, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 72% of our soybean crop has been planted, compared with 55% this time last year and 71% for the 5-year average. About 60% of the crop has emerged, compared with 45% this time last year and 55% for the 5-year average. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

### Soybean Insects

It is still quiet concerning insects in soybeans. Nothing to report for this past week. Again, that will change soon, I'm sure. Stay tuned.



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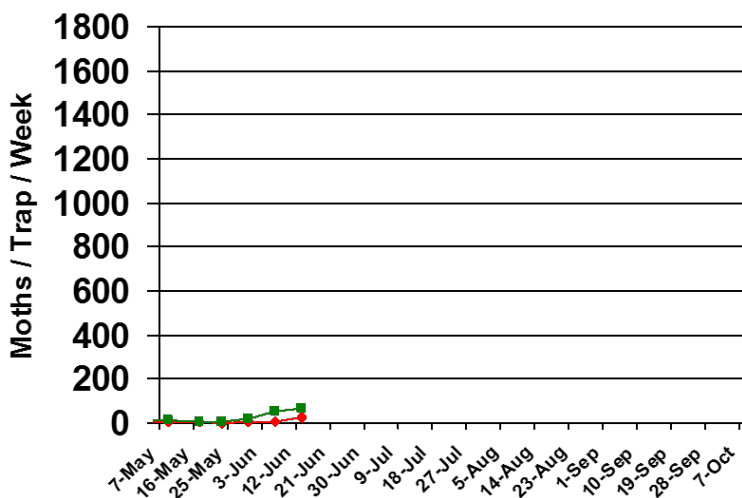
## Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm



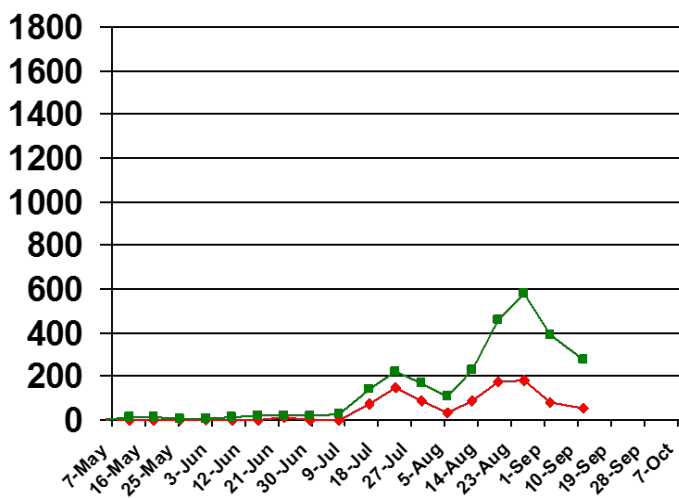
Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2015 for reference. Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for any acres of non-Bt cotton. I provide these data as a measure of moth 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

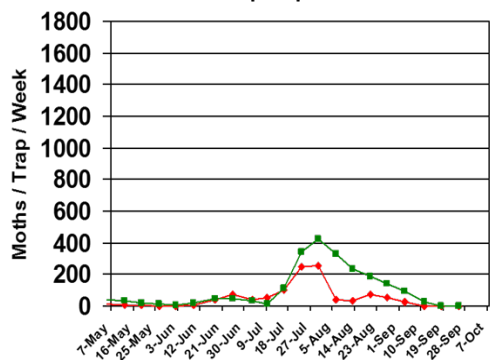


### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2015

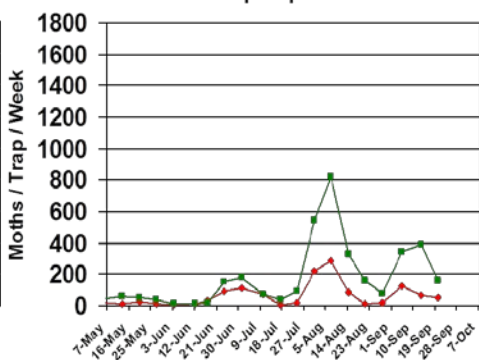


Trap data from 2012-2014 are shown below for reference to other recent years of trapping data from EREC:

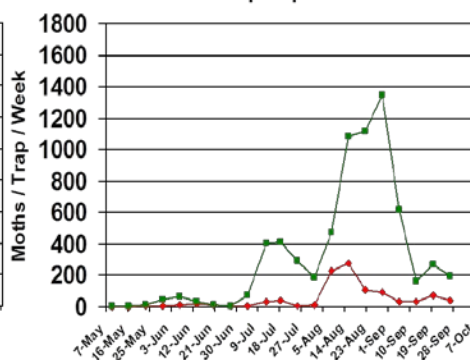
### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2014



### 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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