



Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue #19 Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC 7 September 2018

Pest Patrol Alerts

The information contained herein each week is available via text alerts that direct users to online recordings. I will update the short message weekly 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 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.



Final Issue for 2018

This is the final issue of the newsletter for this season. I hope that it has been informative and educational. If you have suggestions for improving the newsletter, please let me know. Any feedback – positive or negative (constructive criticism) – will be appreciated.

News from Around the State

Jay Crouch, county agent covering Edgefield, Newberry, and Saluda Counties, reported that “caterpillar counts are beginning to climb back here in soybeans - small worms, mostly green cloverworms. If it doesn’t rain soon, it won’t matter.” **Chris Talley**, county agent covering many of the Upstate counties, reported that “soybean loopers are popping up in some soybean fields, and a few farmers have sprayed for them. We will continue scouting for caterpillars.” **Jonathan Croft**, county agent in Orangeburg County, reported that he has “started to pick up some VBC in soybeans at the end of last week and first of this week. Low numbers though.”

Cotton Situation

As of 2 September 2018, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 95% of the crop is setting bolls, compared with 88% the previous week, 97% at this time last year, and 96% for the 5-year average. About 16% of the crop has bolls opening, compared with 7% the previous week, 36% at this time last year, and 26% for the 5-year average. The condition of the crop was described as 16% excellent, 53% good, 30% fair, 1% poor, and 0% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

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

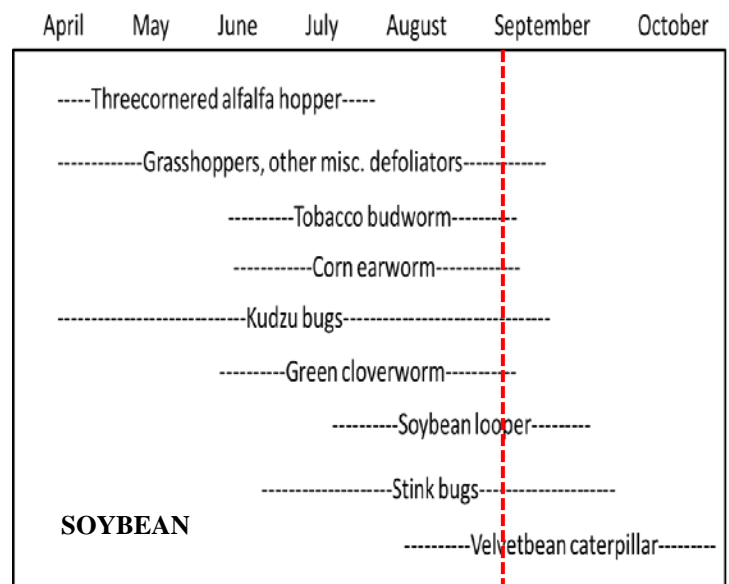
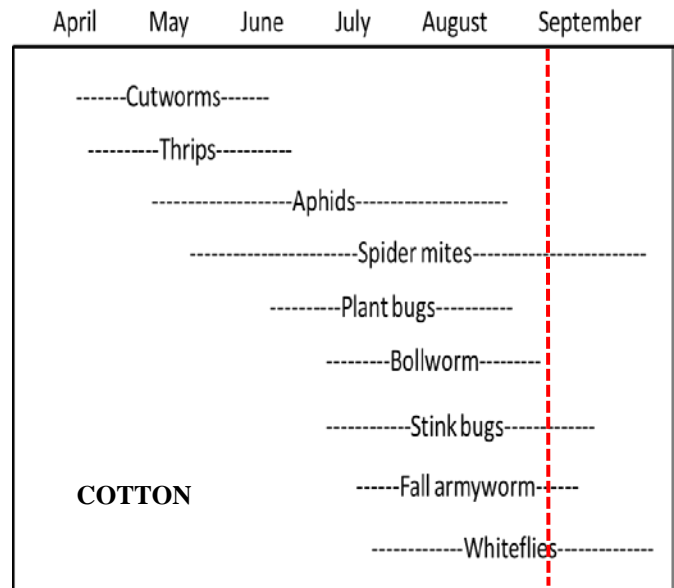
Stink bugs, fall armyworms, spider mites, and whiteflies are about all that could cause problems at this point. The youngest bolls (“top crop”) will remain susceptible to stink bugs, bollworm, and fall armyworm until they are at least 3 weeks from flower. Captures of bollworm moths have been about the same for the past 3 weeks (see chart in section on bollworm/tobacco budworm), so bollworm is still around but likely not causing significant injury at this point. It is probably too late for most of the crop to be hurt by spider mites and whiteflies, so it is basically over for managing insects in cotton in South Carolina for 2018.

Soybean Situation

As of 2 September 2018, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 95% of the crop is blooming, compared with 90% the previous week, 96% at this time last year, and 93% for the 5-year average. About 70% of the crop is setting pods, compared with 62% the previous week, 75% at this time last year, and 64% for the 5-year average. The condition of the crop was described as 4% excellent, 70% good, 25% fair, 1% poor, and 0% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

Soybean Insects

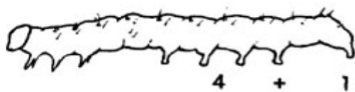
Soybeans will continue to host numerous species of insect pests for the next couple of weeks. We are seeing the following: soybean looper, green cloverworm, velvetbean caterpillar, a few armyworms, threecornered alfalfa hoppers, kudzu bugs, and stink bugs. Kudzu bugs are quite numerous this year, but stink bugs are the real yield-robbers at the end of the season, so don't quit too soon on scouting. We like to see sub-threshold numbers of stink bugs going in to R7 in soybeans. We are observing many hatching egg masses from stink bugs right now, and there are some redbanded stink bugs out there also. They are difficult to control with insecticides. The best treatment for them is Brigade (bifenthrin) + Orthene (acephate).



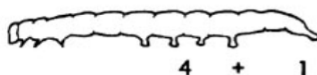
The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.



FIELD KEY TO COMMON SOYBEAN CATERPILLARS



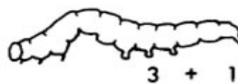
CORN EARWORM
4 + 1 pair prolegs
Curls up in hand
Black "warts" on body



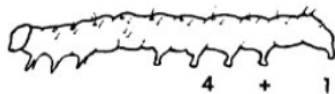
VELVETBEAN CATERPILLAR
4 + 1 pair prolegs
Very active when handled



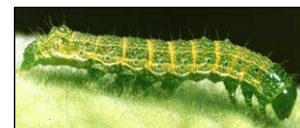
SOYBEAN LOOPER
2 + 1 pair prolegs
Fatter at tail end
Looping movement



GREEN CLOVERWORM
3 + 1 pair prolegs
Not fatter at tail end
Looping movement



TOBACCO BUDWORM
4 + 1 pair prolegs
Curls up in hand
Black "warts" on body



The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

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.



Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm

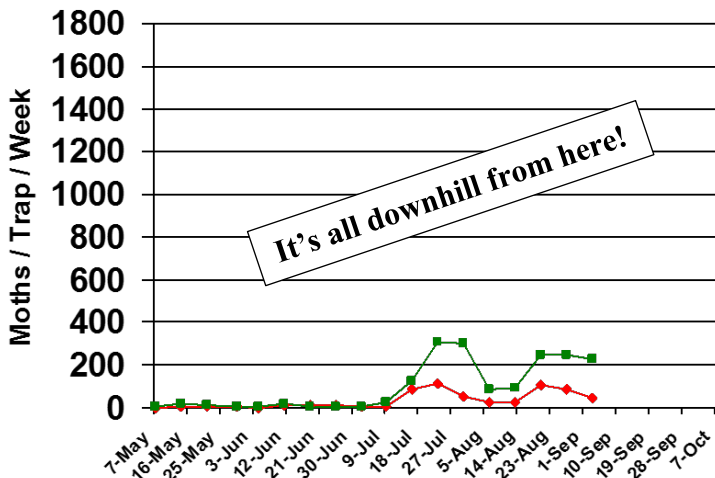


Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2017 for reference. Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for any acres of non-Bt cotton. I provide these

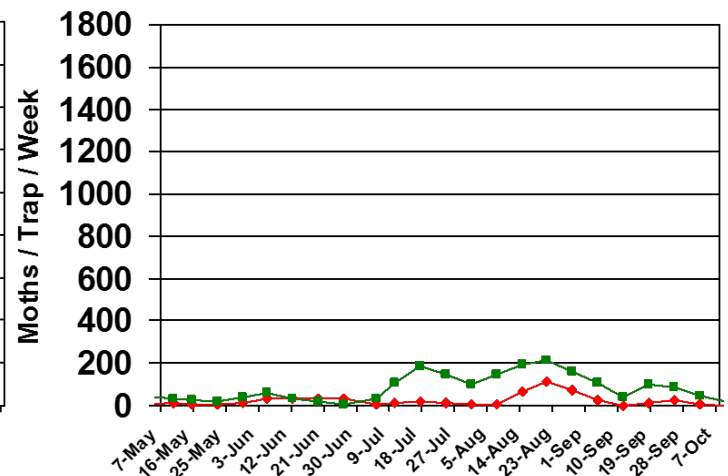
data as a measure of moth presence and activity in our local area near my research plots. The numbers are not necessarily representative of the species throughout the state.



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2018

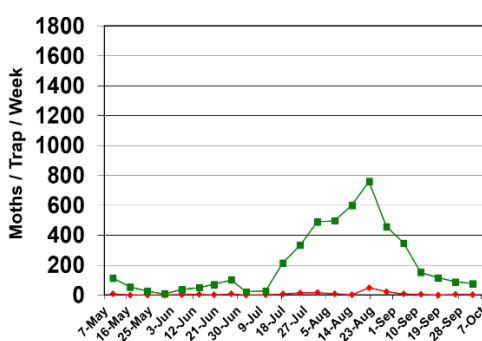


Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2017

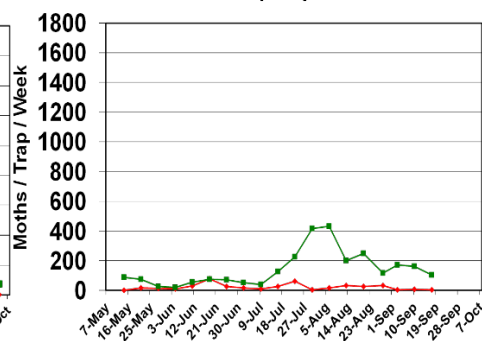


Trap data from 2007-2016 are shown below for reference to other years of trapping data from EREC:

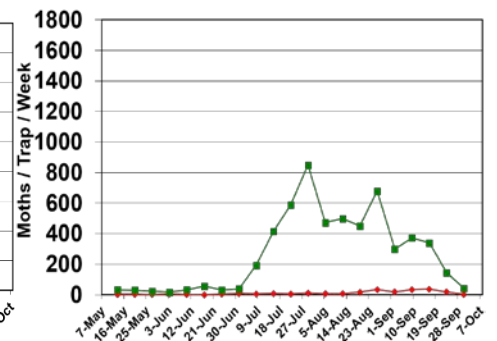
Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2007



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2008



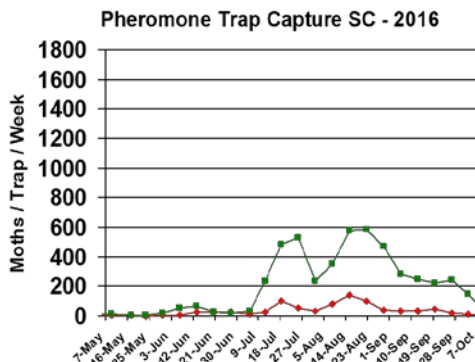
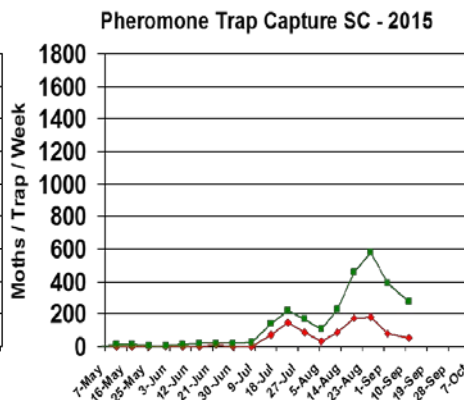
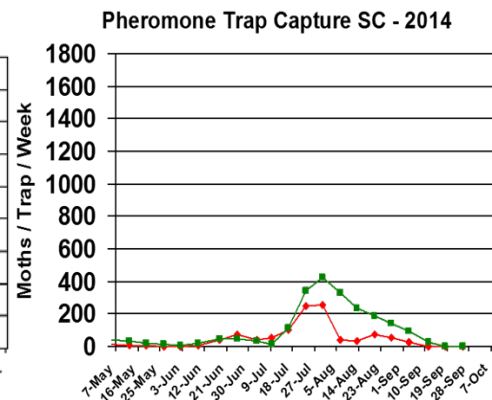
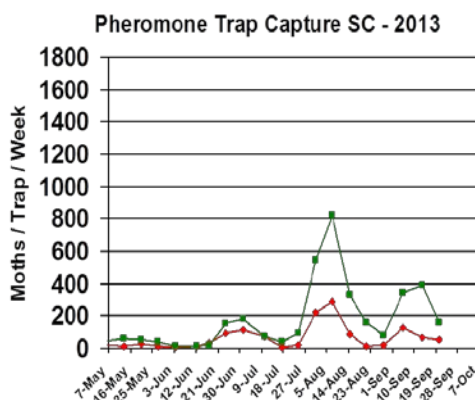
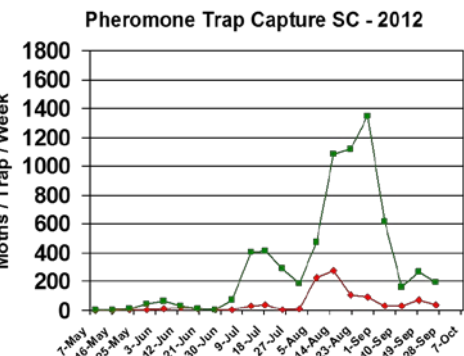
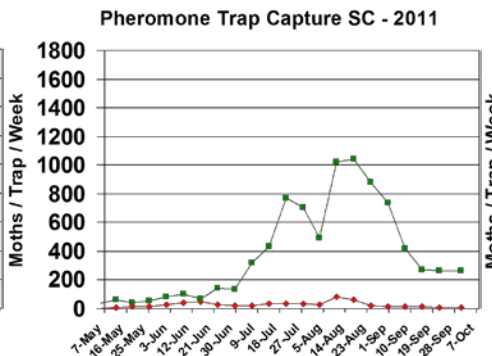
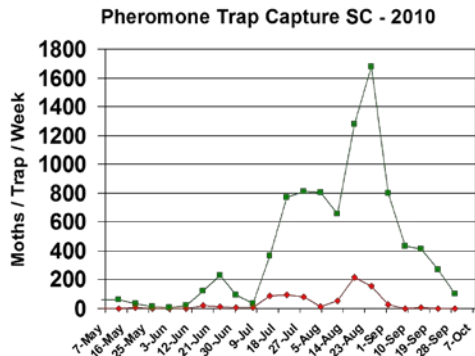
Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2009



The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

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.



Pest Management Handbook – 2018

Insect control recommendations are available online in the 2018 South Carolina Pest Management Handbook at: <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/agronomy/pest%20management%20handbook.html>

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

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.



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/agronomy/cotton1/newsletters.html>

Sincerely,

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



Visit our website at:
<http://www.clemson.edu>

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

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.