Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue #3 Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC 18 May 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

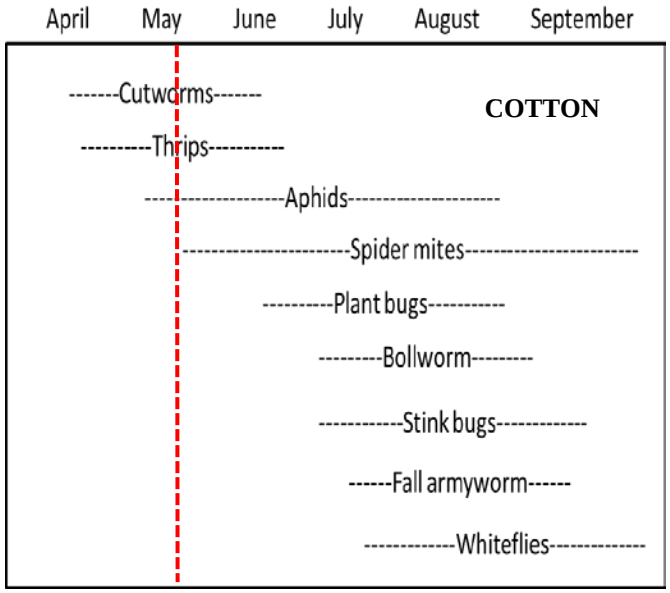
When noteworthy events happen the in the field, I will be sending them out quickly via Twitter. If you want to follow those quick updates, follow me at @bugdocisin on Twitter.

News from Around the State

Well, we went from hot and dry last week to wet and soggy this week. Thankfully, we haven't had cool temperatures to go with the wet weather. Most of the county agents and consultants didn't have any news to report regarding insects this week, as the weather dominates right now. **Jonathan Croft**, county agent covering Orangeburg County, reported that "from the amount of water I saw on some fields planted in the last day or so, we may be seeing some replanting after we dry back out some."

Cotton Situation

As of 13 May 2018, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 30% of the crop has been planted, compared with 12% the previous week, 49% at this time last year, and 42% for the 5-year average. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.



Cotton Insects

Again, we will focus on management of thrips, as we finish planting this crop and it emerges. If you haven't planted yet, you can still check out the online model for predicting risk from thrips in cotton in your area called ***Thrips Infestation Predictor for Cotton (TIP)*** (http://climate.ncsu.edu/CottonTIP) that can be used

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to show how important planting date is for a specific location. To use the TIP tool for cotton, select your field location on the map (zoom in and mark the field with a pin…the coordinates are displayed), enter your planned planting date, and hit 'Submit' to see the results. You will get a series of charts. Figure 2 will show you risk from feeding injury from thrips based on planting date in the field you chose on the map. Figure 3 will show you the predicted risk associated with various potential planting dates in that field. There are many at-plant options for preventative control of thrips. Recommendations for insecticide control of thrips at and after planting are shown below. These are available in the 2018 Pest Management Handbook for at-plant insecticide recommendations for thrips at:
http://www.clemson.edu/extension/agronomy/pest%20management%20handbook.html

THRIPS

Product (at planting)	**Product/acre**	**Lb ai/acre**	**Acre/gal**	**REI**	**PHI**	**Comments**
aldicarb **(R)**		0.525-0.75		48 hr	90 d	In-furrow
AgLogic 15 G or Temik 15 G	3.5-5.0 lb		-			granular
thiamethoxam		-		12 hr	-	Seed treatment
Cruiser or Avicta Duo or	-		-			
Acceleron (check coding)	-		-			
imidacloprid		-		12 hr	-	Seed treatment
Gaucho 600 or Aeris or	-		-			
Acceleron (check coding)	-		-			
acephate		0.97		24 hr	21 d	In-furrow
Orthene/Acephate 97	16.0 oz		-			spray
Orthene/Acephate 90	17.2 oz		-			
phorate **(R)**		1.0		48 hr	60 d	In-furrow
Thimet 20 G	5.0 lb		-			granular
imidacloprid		0.33		12 hr	14 d	In-furrow
Couraze 4 F	10.55 oz		12.1			spray; seed trt
Couraze 2 F	21.1 oz		6.0			+ IFS not to
Admire Pro 4.6	9.2 oz		13.9			exceed 0.5
Velum Total 3.67	14-18 oz	(0.237-0.305)	7.1-9.1			lb/acre total
Product (foliar sprays)	**Product/acre**	**Lb ai/acre**	**Acre/gal**	**REI**	**PHI**	**Comments**
dicrotophos **(R)**		0.2		6 d	30 d	3.2 oz limit pre-
Bidrin 8 E	3.2 oz		40			bloom
acephate		0.18		24 hr	21 d	
Orthene/Acephate 97	3.0 oz		-			
Orthene/Acephate 90	3.2 oz		-			
dimethoate		0.25		48 hr	14 d	
Dimethoate 4 EC	8.0 oz		16			
spinetoram		0.0117-0.0234		4 hr	28 d	Adjuvant
Radiant 1 SC	1.5-3.0 oz		42.7-85.3			recommended

The high rate of aldicarb should also provide some protection against nematodes and suppress early populations of aphids and spider mites. When cotton is planted after May 20, seed treatments have proven to be effective in limiting thrips damage to seedling cotton plants. Avicta (with abamectin) and

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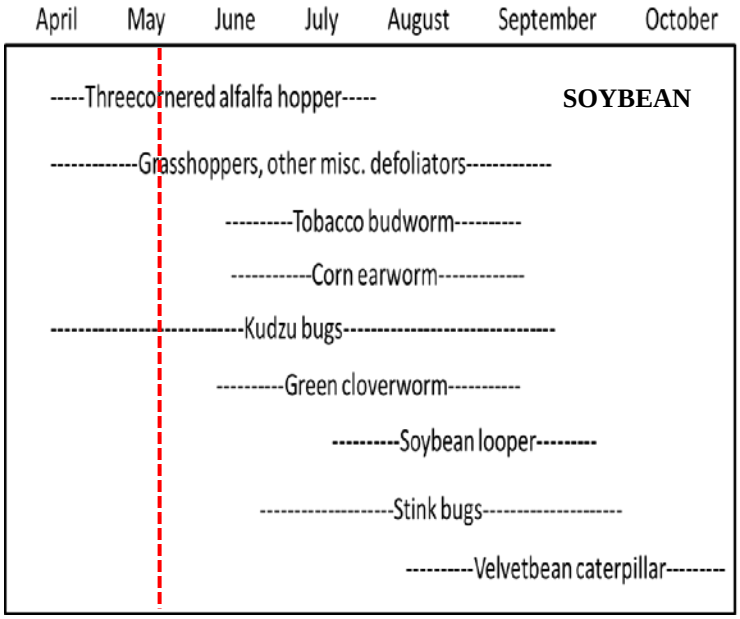
Aeris (with thiodicarb) have some activity on nematodes. Generally, a preventative insecticide used at planting will protect seedlings from severe stunting characteristic of thrips injury. Occasionally, however, conditions will be unfavorable for proper uptake of systemic insecticides (too cool, dry soil, excessive moisture, etc.), and plants can be severely damaged. **Foliar treatments will be most effective when applied to cotton seedlings prior to unfolding of the second true leaf**. A foliar insecticide treatment may be needed when two or more thrips are found per plant. Shake each plant (randomly select 25 or more) into a coffee cup or a similar utensil to facilitate counting. When most plants have severely damaged growing points and immature thrips are present, one or more foliar treatments may be needed to allow the plants to resume normal growth and development. Examine plants 5-7 days after the initial treatment, and treat again if immatures are still present on most plants. When the newly unfolded leaves of infested plants are free of damage, and plants appear to be growing at a normal rate, further applications of insecticides will have little benefit. Treatments applied beyond the four-leaf stage of growth may actually be counterproductive, as these would likely reduce beneficial populations and result in early-season problems with other pests. Although effective, acephate can flare populations of spider mites and aphids.

Soybean Situation

As of 13 May 2018, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 10% of our soybean crop has been planted, compared with 4% the previous week, 26% at this time last year, and 19% for the 5-year average. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages. It has been dry and hot this week.

Soybean Insects

There is not much to report regarding insect issues in soybeans this past week. Because only about 10% of the crop has been planted, there are few issues with insects. We should scout the crop as it emerges, though, to ensure that insects such as grasshoppers and threecornered alfalfa hoppers (TCAH) (photos of adult and immature shown to the right) are not causing injury that we will notice until later. Treat for TCAH when the stand is threatened, at 3 per row ft, or more than several per sweep. As mentioned last week, don't forget your early soybeans. Scout them for insects!



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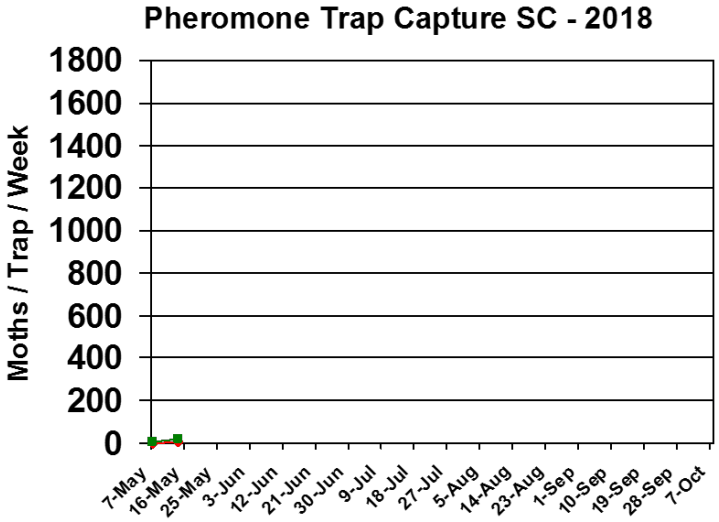
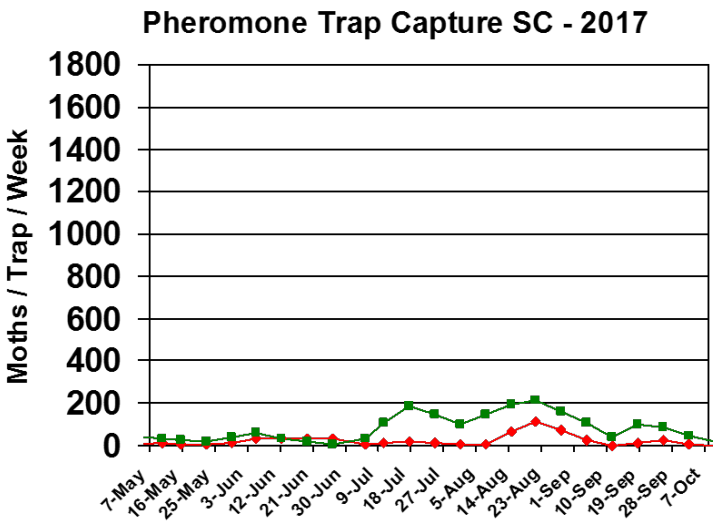
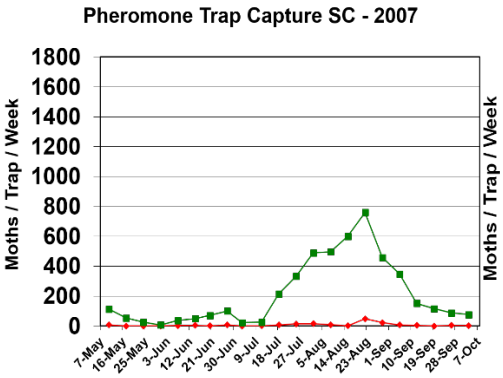
Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm

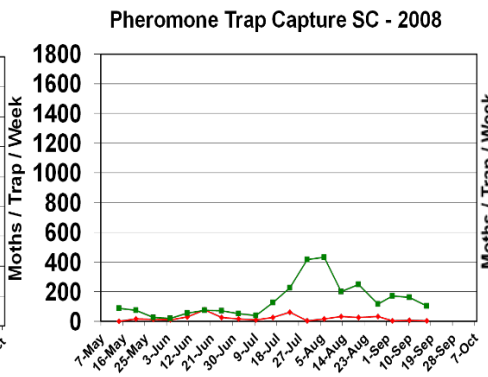
Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2017 for reference. Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for any acres of non-Bt cotton. I provide these data as a measure of moth presence and activity in our local area near my research plots. The numbers are not necessarily representative of the species throughout the state.

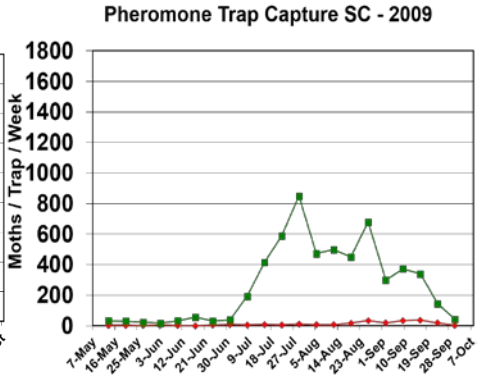




Trap data from 2007-2016 are shown below for reference to other years of trapping data from EREC:







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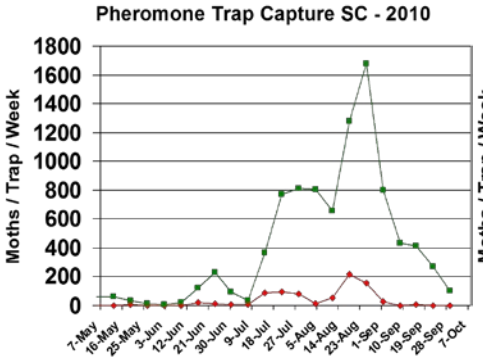

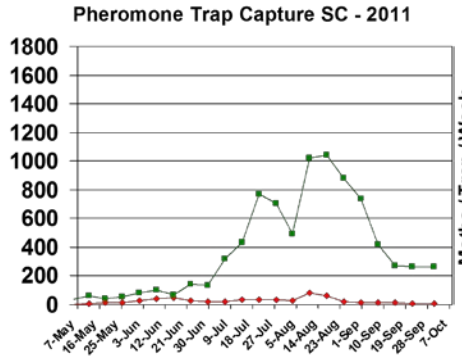

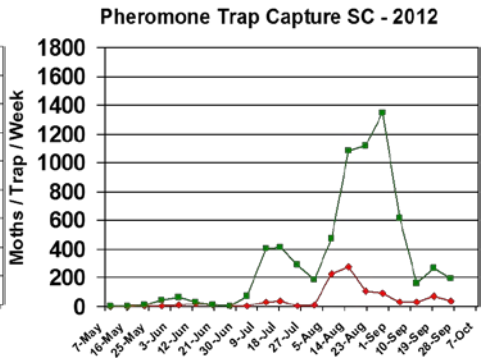

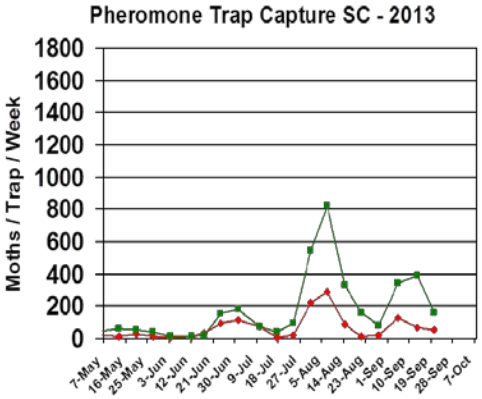

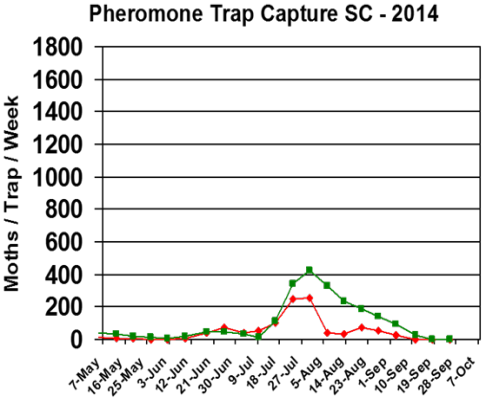

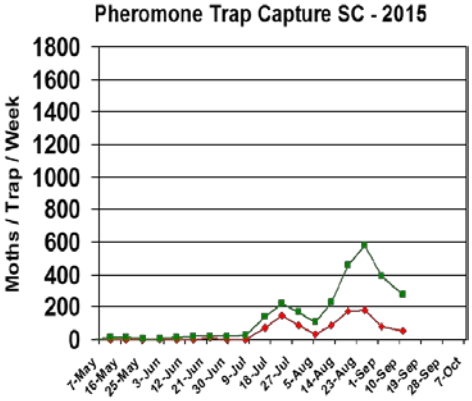

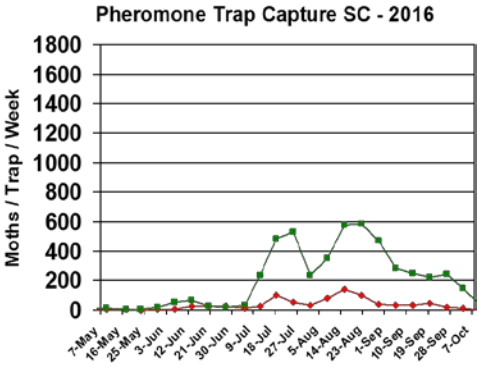

Pest Management Handbook – 2018

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

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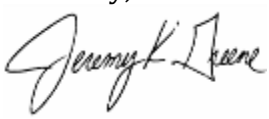
Need More Information?

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

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