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Kansas Insect Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, and Extension Personnel

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Corn Rootworm Beetles Emerging:

Corn rootworm beetles are emerging, and now is the time to be scouting corn fields to predict severity of infestations for next year which can be useful in choosing a rootworm management plan. If you are using a beetle spray program then now is the time that treatments will need to be applied to control next years larval populations. If you are using crop rotation, soil insecticides, seed treatments or rootworm resistant corns then beetle counts are still important to determine what fields are most at risk for rootworm activity next year.

More information can be found in the publication, "Corn Rootworm Management in Kansas Field Corn" available at: http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/library/entml2/MF845.PDF.

Grasshoppers:

If you have not done so already now would be a good time to check field borders for grasshoppers. Nymphs are currently active in some locations and treating field boarders when nymphs are small is often a lot more effective that trying to treat crops later when the hoppers are more mature. Populations of about 20 per square yard may justify treatment. Many of our management guides now have information on chemicals labeled to treat non-crop areas. Materials such as acephate, carbaryl, diflubenzuron, esfenvalerate, gamma-cyhalothrin and lambda-cyhalothrin all carry information on treating non-crop areas. Check labels for specific information and restric

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Southwestern Corn Borer:

Received two reports of significant 1st generation southwestern corn borer infestations from north central Kansas. This is the third year in which these insects have been reported from this part of Kansas and the fact that they are 1st generation indicates they probably overwintered in the area. Indications are the populations are 4th instar to pupae, which means adults will probably be starting to oviposit mid July and thus scouting for eggs should start about the same time as it is critical to ascertain infestation levels prior to the larvae boring into the stalk. For treatment thresholds and registered insecticides see the 2006 Corn Insect Management Guides available at all County Extension offices.

Jeff Whitworth

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Sincerely,

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