

Kansas State University Department of Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

Department of Entomology
123 West Waters Hall
K-State Research and Extension
Manhattan, Kansas 66506
785-532-5891
<http://www.entomology.ksu.edu/extension>



August 18, 2017 No 20

Soybean Update
Insect Diagnostic Laboratory Report

Soybean Update

(thistle caterpillars, green cloverworms, soybean stem borer, spider mites, soybean podworm, soybean aphids)

Thistle caterpillars have not all pupated or emerged as adults yet in north central Kansas. However, probably the majority of the larvae have finished leaf feeding and the adults have initiated oviposition. There are still large numbers of adult butterflies navigating throughout soybean and sunflower fields. Thus, scouting for the larvae should be an ongoing endeavor for probably another three weeks.



Kansas Insect Newsletter

August 18, 2017 No 20

At the same time there are starting to be pretty good populations of green cloverworms in these same soybean fields. Fields in the early to mid-reproductive stages are less tolerant to defoliation. Populations last year caused considerable skeletonizing and resulted in many acres being treated. However, there were also numerous fields that had green cloverworms controlled by an entomophagous fungus.



This highly visible white fungus will probably attack the green cloverworms again this year and may even do so, so effectively that insecticide applications are not necessary. However, please keep in mind there is a lag time between a green cloverworm infestation of soybeans and larval infection by the fungus leading to their destruction. But, they usually slow down or stop feeding soon after becoming infected, even if not actually killed for a few days.

Kansas Insect Newsletter

August 18, 2017 No 20

Soybean stem borers seem to be relatively numerous around north central Kansas as well. Oviposition by the females in the stem, at the site of the petiole attachment, is continuing. Many eggs have already hatched and larvae are tunneling downward in stems where they will internally girdle around the interior of the stem and end up in the base of the taproot where they overwinter.



Spider mites are still present in north central Kansas, but so far seem to be very spotty. These populations need to continue to be monitored during the plant's reproductive stages.

Kansas Insect Newsletter

August 18, 2017 No 20



Kansas Insect Newsletter

August 18, 2017 No 20

Corn earworm larvae (soybean podworms) seem to just be getting started in south east Kansas and can cause considerable damage quickly by feeding on seeds within the pods.



Soybean aphids were first reported on 11 Aug, 2017, from the KSU Research Farm at Ashland Bottoms, just south of Manhattan, KS, by Rene Hessel and Bill Schaupaugh. These aphids have been found in the state every year since their first detection in 2002. Beneficial's are usually very active around these aphid colonies and help keep them from flourishing. However, these small aphids need to be monitored periodically, especially in soybean fields treated for other pests, as these treatments may reduce the beneficial's, and thus, any control which they may have provided.

Kansas Insect Newsletter

August 18, 2017 No 20



For management of all these soybean pests, and others, please refer to the KSU Soybean Insect Management Guide: <https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF743.pdf>

Jeff Whitworth

Holly Schwarting

[HOME](#)

Insect Diagnostic Laboratory Report

<http://entomology.k-state.edu/extension/diagnostician/recent-samples.html>

Eva Zurek

[HOME](#)

Kansas Insect Newsletter

August 18, 2017 No 20

Sincerely,

Jeff Whitworth
Extension Specialist
Field Crops
phone: 785/532-5656
e-mail: jwhitwor@ksu.edu

Holly Schwarting
Research Associate
Phone: (785) 532-4730
e-mail: holly3@ksu.edu

Eva Zurek
Insect Diagnostician
Phone: (785) 532-4710
e-mail: ezurek@ksu.edu



Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact *LOCAL NAME, PHONE NUMBER*. (For TDD, contact Michelle White-Godinet, Assistant Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University, 785-532-4807.)

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, as amended. Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, John D. Floros, Director.

Kansas Insect Newsletter

August 18, 2017 No 20
