

Kansas State University Department of Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

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Soybean Update
Sorghum Update
Insect Diagnostic Laboratory Report

Soybean Update – Thistle caterpillars, Stink bugs, and Soybean Aphids

Thistle caterpillars have mostly vacated their webbed cells and are or have pupated. That is why there are huge numbers of painted lady butterflies flying around on most rural roads throughout north central Kansas. Hopefully, these butterflies will head south for overwintering and will not start laying eggs in soybean or sunflower fields. However, fields need to continue to be monitored for small thistle caterpillars, especially double-cropped soybeans. Additionally, monitor for the continued presence of green cloverworms, although these populations seem to be declining quite rapidly around north central Kansas.



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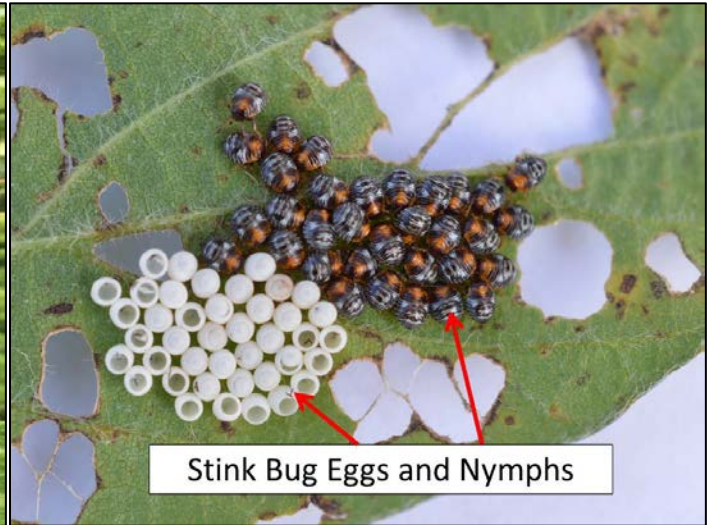
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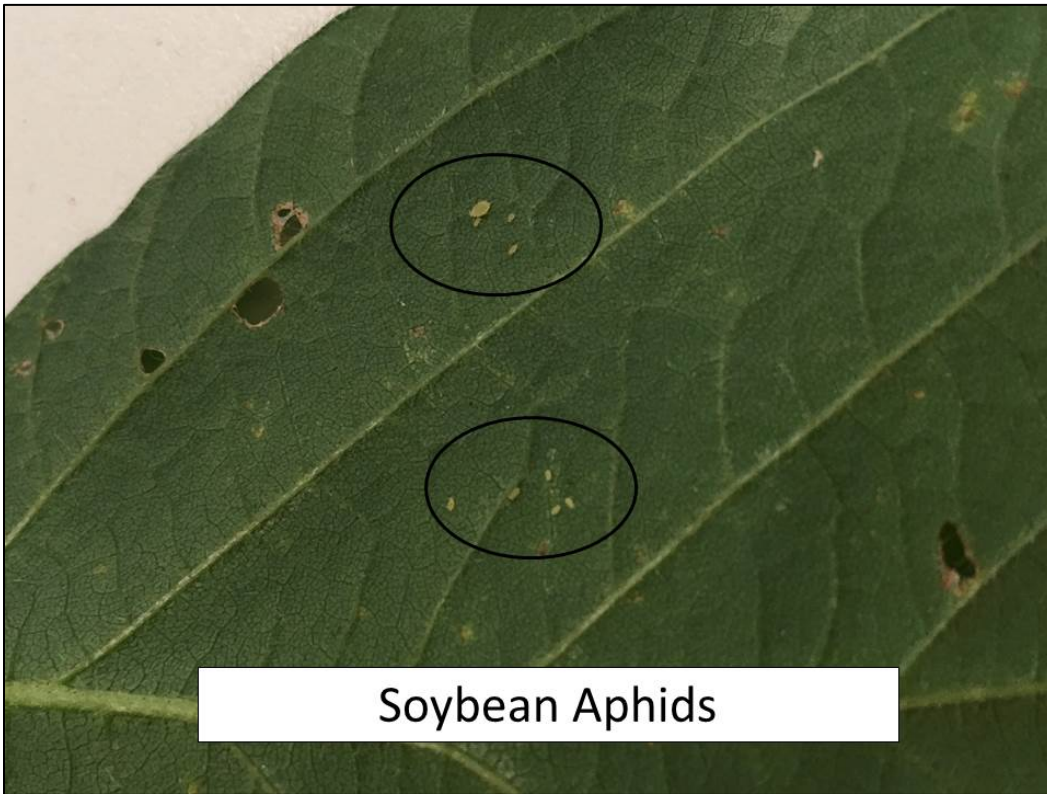
Phytophagous stink bugs, both brown and green, are increasing in many soybean fields. Either may insert their mouthparts into the seed within the pods and suck out juice from the developing seed. However, there are also brown stink bugs that are predatory on pests like the yellowstriped armyworm (shown below) which has been killed and is being utilized as a food source by this beneficial stink bug.

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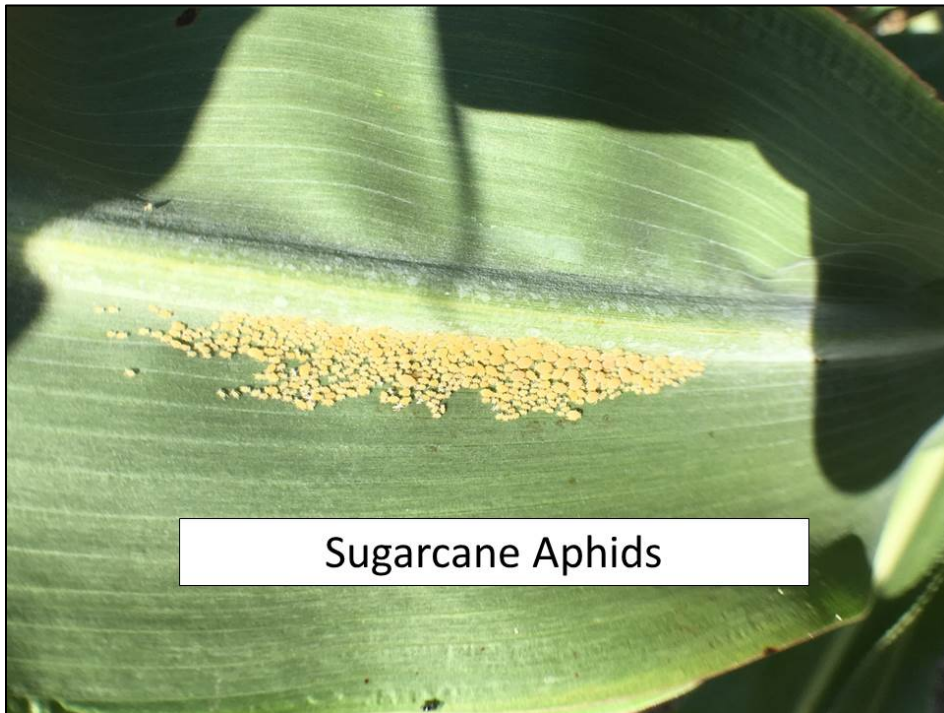
Soybean aphid populations are still present in all fields examined this week in north central Kansas, but are not increasing in density or coverage.



For management decisions for all soybean pests please see the 2017 Soybean Insect Management Guide:
<https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF743.pdf>

Sorghum Update – Sugarcane aphids

Sugarcane aphids are still present in sorghum fields examined over the last week but, like soybean aphids, seem not to have increased in densities or coverage. However, continued monitoring is prudent.



To see the current sugarcane aphid distribution map please visit MyFields:

<https://www.myfields.info/pests/sugarcane-aphid>

For management decisions please refer to the 2017 Sorghum Insect Management Guide:

<https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF742.pdf>

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Insect Diagnostic Laboratory Report

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

Eva Zurek

HOME

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Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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