Dectes in Soybeans

Adult Dectes stem borers seem very common in most soybean fields throughout south central and north central Kansas (see photo). Also, it seems like mating is pretty much completed and egg laying has commenced. As these eggs hatch and the larvae start feeding/boring inside the petioles and stems this is going to add to the stress these plants are already enduring due to the hot and dry weather. There really are no proven management recommendations for Dectes stem borers other than hope the plants can tolerate this tunneling and they can be harvested prior to the main stem being girdled with the resultant lodging. This does not look like a good situation at this time.
Potato Leafhoppers

Potato leafhoppers are also currently very common in both alfalfa and soybean fields (see photo). This is not usually a problem in soybeans in Kansas; however they can cause serious problems in alfalfa. There do not seem to be as many as in past summers yet, but growers need to continue scouting to ensure potato leafhoppers do not become a problem over the next few weeks.

Sincerely,

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