Alfalfa

Alfalfa pests are still causing concern among alfalfa producers. In north central Kansas the alfalfa has yet to become dormant, at least as of 29 Nov. Also, in these slowly growing fields the pea aphids seem to be doing very well and no beneficials, which might help to control them, were detected. Also, alfalfa weevil larvae are still actively feeding on leaf tissue. One potato leafhopper was also picked up in sweep net samples. Hopefully, the colder winter weather will eliminate the pea aphids and alfalfa weevil larvae!
Alfalfa weevil larvae collected on 29 Nov. – DK Co.

Alfalfa weevil larva collected on 29 Nov. – DK Co.
Wheat

Some winter grain mite infestations have been noted in the last 7-10 days. These seem to become evident every fall, especially under dry conditions, but don’t warrant a pesticide application. Moisture and/or colder weather will alleviate these infestations, at least until warmer spring weather returns. For more information on winter grain mites, please visit: http://entomology.k-state.edu/extension/insect-information/crop-pests/wheat/winter-grain-mite.html