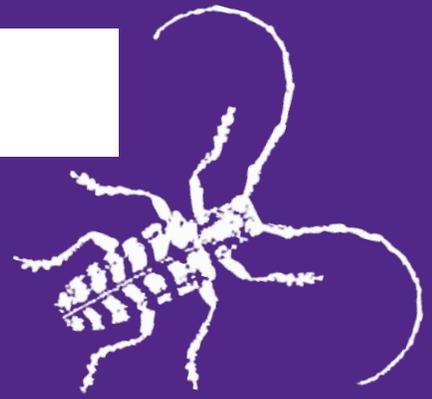


Kansas State University Extension Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

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September 13, 2019 #21

Soybean Update
Sorghum Update
Entomology Quiz Answer
Bug Jokes of the Week

Soybean Update—podworms, corn earworms, sorghum headworms

Most soybeans around north central Kansas are now well into the mid to late reproductive stages. There doesn't seem to be much potential for any massive infestations by defoliators and even if there was, as the soybeans get farther along in their development the leaf tissue becomes less needed. However, the direct pests, those that feed on the marketable product, are still very active and some are even increasing. Bean leaf beetle adults are active, feeding on pods, however, there do not seem to be as many as in past years. Soybean podworms, i.e., corn earworms/sorghum headworms, are very common and seem to be increasing in numbers in some areas. Treatment thresholds are usually considered to be 1 larva/row foot, with small worms, i.e., less than ½ inch (see pic1) and they are feeding on the seeds (beans). These larvae feed for roughly 2 weeks before pupating. As the larvae develop larger than the one shown here (see pic 1) they consume more as they get bigger and this feeding will continue for about another 7-10 days at these temperatures.



Jeff Whitworth

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Sorghum Update—headworms, corn earworms, fall armyworms

Much sorghum has been treated throughout north central Kansas for headworms (corn earworms and/or fall army worms) and most treatments seem to have been very effective. Again, Sorghum is most vulnerable to headworms from flowering to soft dough, so past the soft dough stage headworm treatment will not be necessary. The headworm shown (see pic1) has approximately 7-10 more days of feeding before pupating. Still no reports of sugarcane aphid problems – but monitoring should continue because in 2016 insecticide applications were still justified into late September.

Pic2: These two larvae were collected from a Heligen treated field. The dead (smaller) larva is obviously pathogen-affected. If Heligen is responsible for the death of this larva, then it looks like the application was well timed to kill the larva before it caused much damage.

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Photo by Cooper Wyckoff)

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Entomology Quiz: answer to last week's picture

Broad wing Katydid Eggs.

Thank you Kiffnie Holt for the answer!

Jeff Whitworth

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Bug Jokes of the Week

Q: Why was the baby ant confused?

A: Because all his uncles were ants.

Q: Why did the lice fall off the toilet seat?

A: Because they all got pissed off.

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Sincerely,

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