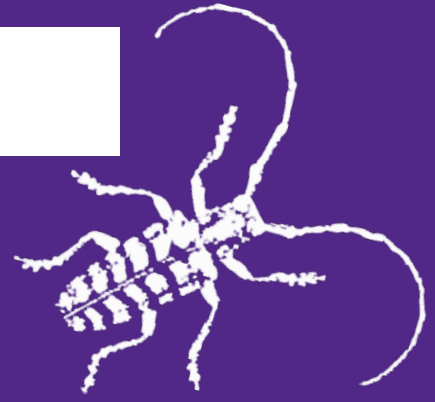


Kansas State University Extension Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

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ALFALFA – potato leafhoppers
SOYBEAN – bean leaf beetle
Bug Jokes of the Week

ALFALFA – potato leafhoppers

Alfalfa should probably still be monitored for pests. Every alfalfa field sampled throughout south central and north central Kansas from 8-13 October had significant infestations of potato leafhoppers (see fig 1). The treatment threshold for potato leafhoppers is variable as the economics of hay production is so dynamic depending upon the end use of the hay. However, potato leafhoppers can stress alfalfa in 2 ways--removing plant fluids due to their feeding with the simultaneous injection of a toxin (see fig 2 of "hopper burn"). These two factors may stress alfalfa at any time of the year, but especially this time of year (especially during this dry period) because it may hamper the plant's ability to prepare for overwintering. One positive note, however, all potato leafhoppers observed in the last 10 days were adults; so hopefully, they will be migrating out of Kansas for overwintering sites in the southern U.S. All fields sampled had not been swathed, so if they are cut soon this should also help eliminate any leafhopper problems.



Figure 1. Potato Leafhoppers (Cayden Wyckoff)



Figure 2. "Hopper Burn on alfalfa (Cayden Wyckoff)

Jeff Whitworth

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SOYBEAN – bean leaf beetle

Most soybeans have developed well past the point of being susceptible to soybean pests (excluding lodging due to *Dectes* stem girdling). However, there are still some late-planted fields that have pests feeding on the pods. See (fig 3) of grasshopper feeding bite site and bean leaf beetle chewed hole. However, grasshoppers should be dying soon and thus not causing much actual damage. The bean leaf beetles will soon be migrating from these soybean fields to overwintering sites.



Figure 3. Soybean pod damage by grasshopper and bean leaf beetle (Cayden Wyckoff)

Jeff Whitworth

[HOME](#)

Bug Jokes of the Week

What kind of bugs smell the best?

Deodor-ants

Do you know why programers prefer dark mode?

Because light attracts bugs.

Sharon Schroll

HOME

Sincerely,

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Kansas Insect Newsletter

October 15, 2020 No. 26

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