Kansas State University Extension Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

Department of Entomology 123 West Waters Hall K-State Research and Extension Manhattan, Kansas 66506 785-532-5891 http://blogs.k-state.edu/kansasbugs/ http://www.entomology.ksu.edu/extension



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Potato Leafhoppers Grasshoppers

Potato Leafhoppers

The 1st potato leafhoppers were detected in northcentral Kansas on 10 June, but probably started immigrating in a few days prior to that. They will continue this immigration for about another month. As of 14 June, however, only adults were active (see fig 1) but they are depositing eggs which hatch into very tiny nymphs in approximately 4-7 days. Much alfalfa, however, has just been swathed, or soon will be, and this will help mitigate potato leafhopper damage by removing eggs/nymphs before they cause any damage (see fig 2-often called "hopper burn"). However, adults will continue to migrate into these fields- so monitoring should continue as the new growth emerges.



Figure 1. Adult potato leafhoppers

Figure 2. Hopper burn

Jeff Whitworth – Field Crops Entomologist

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Grasshoppers

Grasshopper eggs, deposited last fall, have been producing small nymphs for about the past 2 weeks. Thus, if field borders, weedy ditches, or any non-disturbed areas adjacent to crop fields are infested with these small nymphs- it is an ideal time to treat these areas to get good control (see fig 3).

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Figure 3. Grasshopper nymphs

Jeff Whitworth – Field Crops Entomologist

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Sincerely,

Jeff Whitworth Extension Specialist Field Crops

phone: 785/532-5656 e-mail: jwhitwor@ksu.edu

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KANSAS STATE Department of Entomology

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