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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Grasshoppers Abundant in Many Areas Upcoming Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Training

Grasshoppers Abundant in Many Areas

It is well understood that weather patterns can have a significant impact on grasshopper populations year to year. Warm, dry weather increases the survival of nymphs and adult grasshoppers, leading to increased egg production during the growing season, while cool, wet weather promotes fungal pathogens that can reduce egg and nymph survival. Another factor that influences grasshopper populations is an abundance of food, especially broadleaf weeds. A diet high in these forbs leads to greater nymph survival, faster growth, larger adult grasshoppers, and increased egg production. With the widespread moisture that fell, it is likely that the abundance of weeds in many areas of the state have contributed to the noticeable number and diversity of grasshoppers currently being observed. As these weedy sources of food are exhausted or controlled, grasshoppers may shift their grazing over to anything still growing in the landscape. In areas with greater grasshopper pressure seedling alfalfa and wheat could be at risk.



Image of grasshopper

Before planting alfalfa, treatment should be considered if there are 15 or more grasshoppers per square yard around the planting area. Once planted and growing, consider treatment if 3-5 grasshoppers per square yard are found in the seedling alfalfa stand.

Vegetated borders around areas where wheat will be planted should be scouted 10 days before planting. Consider treating those borders if there are 7 to 12 grasshoppers per square yard. Once growing, 3 or more grasshoppers per square yard within the field can destroy seedling wheat stands. If grasshopper populations are low to moderate, seed treatments can offer some protection to emerging wheat plants if products are applied at the highest registered rate.

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Seed treatments will be less effective under severe grasshopper pressure. Avoid planting too early as this will help reduce the time that wheat will need to be protected.

Please refer to the most recent Alfalfa and Wheat Insect Management Guides for specific control information:

- Alfalfa Insect Management Guide: <u>http://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF809.PDF</u>
- Wheat Insect Management Guide: http://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/mf745.pdf

Anthony Zukoff—Southwest Research and Extension Center - Garden City, KS

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Upcoming Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification Training



The K-State Research and Extension Pesticide Safety and IPM Program will be hosting multiple commercial pesticide applicator recertification training opportunities this fall.

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Date	Training	Category	Location
October 16	Ag Wildlife	1C	Hays
October 30	Right-of-Way, Industrial Weed, and Noxious Weed	6, 7C, 9A	Wichita
November 1	Ag Plant	1A	Salina
November 6-7	Forestry, Ornamental, Turf, and Interiorscape	2, 3A, 3B, 3C	Virtual
November 28	Aquatics	5	Emporia

Registration may be mailed or <u>completed online</u>.

Call Frannie Miller with the Pesticide & IPM Program at (620) 241-1523 or email <u>fmiller@ksu.eu</u> for additional information about the above trainings.

Commercial applicators may obtain recertification training credits any time during their active three year certification period. Commercial applicators have until December 31 of the year of expiration to earn credits. It is the commercial applicator's responsibility to obtain the required credits.

The renewal period will open in October of the year of expiration. Make sure your renewal application and recertification fees are received by KDA by the December 31 expiration date of their certification to maintain continuous certification. For those who attended complete training during their certification period, the application form and fees will be accepted for 30 days following the certification expiration date. If certification fees are not paid to KDA by January 30, the applicator will be required to take the examinations to restart the certification process.

Credits may be viewed through the commercial applicator's KDA Portal account.

More opportunities to earn commercial pesticide applicator credits can be found on the KDA website at: <u>https://portal.kda.ks.gov/PAF/PafTraining/TrainingEventList</u>. If you have questions, please contact the KDA Pesticide & Fertilizer Program by e-mail at <u>kda.pestfert@ks.gov</u> or call 785-564-6688.

Frannie Miller - Pesticide Safety and IPM Coordinator

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Sincerely,

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Department of Entomology

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact the Director of Institutional Equity, Kansas State University, 103 Edwards Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506-0124, (Phone) 785-532-6220; (TTY) 785-532-4807. (For TDD, contact Michelle White-Godinet, Assistant Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University, 785-532-4807.)

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