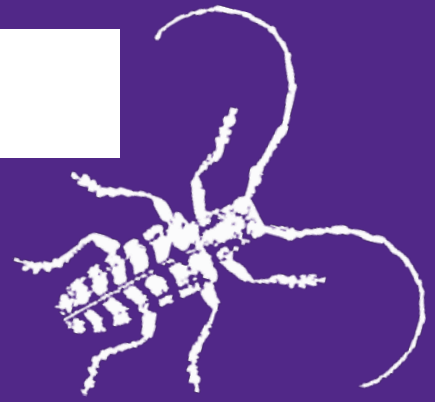


# Kansas State University Extension Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

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July 19, 2024, No. 18

## News Corner

- Grasshoppers Abundant
- Seeking Soybean Fields for Summer Sampling

## NEWS CORNER

### Grasshoppers Abundant

Weather patterns can have a significant impact on grasshopper populations year to year. Hot, dry summers increase survival of nymphs and adult grasshoppers, leading to increased egg production during the growing season. Cool, wet weather promotes fungal pathogens that can reduce egg and nymph survival, but if the following spring is warm and wet, egg hatching will increase and more nymphs survive. So, several years of hot, dry summers followed by warm, wet springs can eventually lead to large populations of grasshoppers in some regions.

Weather patterns along with abundant grassy and broad-leaf weeds have supported the presence of large grasshopper populations in western and central Kansas this year. Most crops are likely mature enough to withstand some defoliation as summer continues, however 5 to 8 grasshoppers per square yard



Grasshopper Populations Remain Elevated –  
Photo by Camron Nisly

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in corn or sorghum fields may warrant treatment. Later this season, fall-planted crops could be at risk, especially as alternate food sources are controlled or go dormant. In areas with larger grasshopper populations seedling alfalfa and wheat could be at risk.

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 protect emerging wheat plants for several weeks if products are applied at the highest registered rate. 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.

In either crop, depending on the products used and severity of the season's grasshopper buildup, multiple applications might be necessary. Please refer to the most recent Insect Management Guides for specific control information.

## **Corn Insect Management Guide**

[https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/download/corn-insect-pest-management-2024\\_MF810](https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/download/corn-insect-pest-management-2024_MF810)

## **Sorghum Insect Management Guide**

[https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/sorghum-insect-pest-management-2024\\_MF742.pdf](https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/sorghum-insect-pest-management-2024_MF742.pdf)

## **Alfalfa Insect Management Guide**

[https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/alfalfa-insect-pest-management-2024\\_MF809.PDF](https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/alfalfa-insect-pest-management-2024_MF809.PDF)

## **Wheat Insect Management Guide**

[https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/wheat-insect-pest-management-2024\\_MF745.pdf](https://bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/wheat-insect-pest-management-2024_MF745.pdf)

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

HOME

## Seeking Soybean Fields for Summer Sampling

This summer, we're scouting fields in northeastern Kansas for soybean gall midge (SGM), which is a new soybean pest across the North Central region. Its range has been slowly expanding over the last several years, and we finally detected this species for the first time in Kansas during [June of 2023](#). We need your help to increase our sampling efforts to understand the impact of this pest in Kansas soybean. Populations take time to develop, but early detection is important to understanding how to best manage this pest in the long term.

If you are a grower or an extension agent and can connect us to soybean producers or consultants, then please reach out. We're looking for soybean fields to sample in **northern tier of Kansas counties that border Nebraska or Missouri**. Soybean gall midge is most likely to expand its range in these counties. Reach out to [Brian McCornack](#) or [Anthony Zukoff](#) for participating in this program. Check [soybeangallmidge.org](http://soybeangallmidge.org) for scouting tips, learn about SGM's biology, and see what counties have been infested.



Soybean gall midge larvae. (Justin McMechan, Uni. of Nebraska)

Brian McCornack - Mobile technologies and digital delivery  
Anthony Zukoff - Southwest Research and Extension Center – Garden City, KS

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HOME

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@westksbugs

[Need an insect identified? Visit the Insect Diagnostics Program Website](#)

Visit [entomology.ksu.edu/extension](http://entomology.ksu.edu/extension) to explore our extension resources.

[What do you think about our newsletter? Send us your feedback here!](#)



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