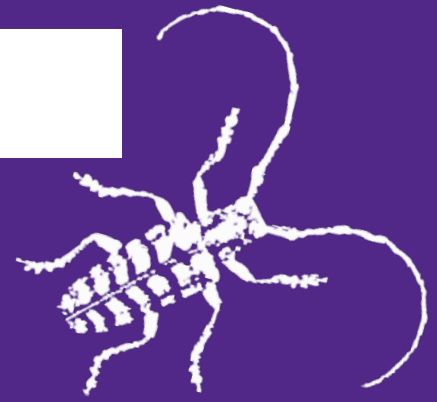


Kansas State University Extension Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

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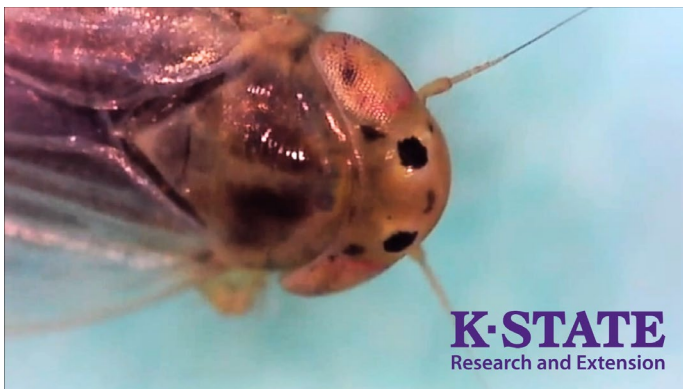
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News Corner

- New Kansas Corn Pest - Corn Leafhopper
- Mimosa Webworm

NEWS CORNER

New Kansas Corn Pest – Corn Leafhopper



Corn stunt disease and its associated vector, the corn leafhopper (CLH), have been recently confirmed in five counties in Kansas. To our knowledge, this is the first detection of the disease in Kansas. In the article linked below, learn about how this disease spreads, what to look for in the field, and how to submit a tissue sample for testing.

Read the full article: <https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu/article/low-levels-of-corn-stunt-disease-have-been-confirmed-in-kansas-606-1>

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If you suspect you have corn leafhoppers, you can send digital samples to our Insect Diagnostician, Anthony Zukoff, here: <https://entomology.ksu.edu/id>. He is also available for additional inquiry about CLH. His contact information is listed at the bottom of this newsletter.

For questions about corn stunt and related symptoms, you can reach out to Rodrigo Onofre (onofre@ksu.edu). You can also send live plant samples to the K-State Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab. Steps are outlined in the full article linked above.

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

HOME

Mimosa Webworm

Mimosa webworm, *Homadaula anisocentra*, larvae or caterpillars are causing noticeable damage to honey locust, *Gleditsia triacanthos*, and mimosa, *Albizia julibrissin*, trees throughout Kansas. The caterpillars are 1/2 of an inch (12.7 millimeters) long when full grown (Figure 1) and move backward rapidly when disturbed. The caterpillars web leaves together on the ends of branches (Figure 2). Caterpillars create webs near the tops of trees, which protects them from natural enemies (parasitoids and predators) and insecticide spray applications. Trees heavily infested with mimosa webworm are brown or scorched in appearance (Figure 3). The caterpillars eventually depart from trees using a silken strand before pupating. Mimosa webworm pupates in bark crevices or the pupae are attached to structures (e.g. buildings). There are two generations per year in Kansas.



Figure 1. Mimosa webworm caterpillars feeding on leaves (Raymond Cloyd).

It is too late to apply an insecticide this time of year when trees are heavily infested with webbing because the caterpillars are protected from insecticide spray applications inside the leaf webbing. However, next year, you can manage mimosa webworm caterpillars by applying an insecticide when the caterpillars are initially present and exposed to insecticide spray applications. You can use insecticides that contain the following active ingredients: *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *kurstaki*, spinosad, bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, and

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permethrin. Read the label of each product to ensure that “webworms” are listed. *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *kurstaki* and spinosad are stomach poisons so mimosa webworm caterpillars must ingest the spray solution on the leaf surface in order to be killed. High volume spray applications should be used so that the insecticide contacts the caterpillars or there are residues on the leaf surface. If feasible, selective pruning quickly removes isolated or localized mimosa webworm infestations.



Figure 2. Mimosa webworm webbing on end of branch (Raymond Cloyd).



Figure 3. Extensive feeding damage caused by mimosa webworm caterpillars (Raymond Cloyd).

Raymond Cloyd – Horticultural Entomology/Plant Protection

HOME

Sincerely,

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

Visit entomology.ksu.edu/extension to explore our extension resources.

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Department of Entomology

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Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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