

# IPM NEWSLETTER

## Update for Field Crops and Their Pests

Issue No. 21

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Bookmarks: [Insect issues](#) [Area report](#) [Boll weevil](#) [Moth traps](#)

### Insect Issues (Scott Stewart, IPM Specialist)

**Cotton:** Because most the specialists have been out of the office the majority of the week, this will be an abridged version of the IPM Newsletter this week. Moth trap catches are attached. Moth catches were down this week, indicating that things might finally be slowing in the areas that have experiences constant pressure during the last 3-4 weeks. This includes much of Carroll, Gibson and Lake Counties. However, there are still enough moths around to potentially cause problems in late maturing fields. I was in several Bollgard fields early this week that needed at least one more application to control bollworms. Quite a few Bollgard fields have been sprayed 2-3 times for bollworms in the hotter areas. You should also notice that tobacco budworm moths are still common in some areas.

There has been a resurgence of clouded plant bugs in some of the later maturing cotton fields. It is certainly within the realm of possibility that stink bugs, plant bugs (especially clouded plant bug), or bollworm/budworms infestations may still justify treatment. Of course many fields are mature enough that insecticide applications for fruit feeding pests can and should be terminated. However, there is a considerable amount of cotton that hit cutout (i.e., NAWF=5) around August 10<sup>th</sup> or later. Even being conservative and using August 10<sup>th</sup> as the last effective bloom date, it is necessary to protect these later maturing fields from boll feeding insects for an additional 14-21 days (about 350-400 DD60's) past the last effective bloom date. This does not mean you *must* spray these later fields, but the potential exist for at least another week.

I've had a few calls about beet and fall armyworms, but there does not appear to be any major issues with these critters. Beet armyworm moth catches have been running higher than usual all year. Considering the low rainfall in parts of the state (a condition that favors beet armyworm), it is not too surprising that they have popped up in a few places. I've had calls from Tipton, Crockett and Haywood Counties. If treatment for beet armyworm is needed, there are several excellent options listed in our [Tennessee Cotton Insect Control Guide](#) including Intrepid, Tracer, Denim and Steward. Pyrethroid insecticides will not control beet armyworm infestations, so if multiple pests are infesting fields, tank mixes may be required. I discussed fall armyworm treatment options last week. Intrepid at 4 oz/acre will normally provide good control of beet armyworms, and this is a good tank mix partner with a pyrethroid insecticide if fall armyworms or bollworm are also present.



**Soybean:** Pay special attention to potential bollworm (i.e., corn earworm) infestations in wheat beans. Any beans that are still flowering will be attractive to moths. Later maturing beans will also be attractive to stink bugs, so don't forget about this pest.

### **Area Cotton Report for Northwest Tennessee (Gene Miles, Area Crop Specialist, Week of 8/14)**

**Cotton:** More fields are being observed this week that are fast approaching 350-450 units (DD 60's) past the "cutout" date. This period of time (approximately 18-21 days) is required to mature yield-contributing bolls beyond the point where bollworm/budworm, plant bugs and stink bugs can cause economic damage. Natural shedding continues with more mature plants in the area dropping from an average of 65% total fruit retention last week to 56% this week.

Multiple flights of primarily bollworm moths have caused some conventional cotton fields being monitored through the Dyer County Extension Service IPM program to be treated two times. Some of these cotton fields had as high as 17 percent damage last week, but damage was reduced to 0.5-1% this week with recommended insecticides. The highest percent damage being reported this week in conventional cotton is 7 percent and the high egg count is 6 percent. Plant bug numbers being reported this week were all below threshold, and stink bug numbers range up to 0.4 per 6 row feet. Beneficial insect counts were reduced by recently applied insecticides, and the highest count reported was 2.2 per 6 row feet.

**Soybean:** Stink bugs were reported this week at the threshold level (1/3 row feet) in Group V soybeans in the bloom to mid-fill stage of growth. Corn earworm numbers being reported remain below threshold (2 per 3 row feet).

At this time, I would personally like to thank producers, U.T. Extension personnel, county IPM scouts, agricultural industry personnel and private consultants for their contributions to my portion of the IPM Newsletter this season.

### **Boll Weevil Eradication Update (Dr. Ron Seward, Tennessee Program Manager)**

Trapping information is included for the period August 10-16 (cycle 18). A total of 1105 boll weevils were trapped. This is a 64% increase from last week and a 45% decrease from this cycle last year. Ninety-five percent of the capture was from Shelby-Tipton counties. The percent of fields with zero weevil captures ranged from 84% in Brighton work unit, 98% in Brownsville and Dyersburg to 100% in Alamo work unit. Forty percent of fields with a weevil capture were a "single" weevil. Year to date capture is down 51% from 2005.

**Tennessee Pheromone Moth Trapping Summary** - Trapping efforts are funded in large part by the Tennessee Cotton Incorporated State Support Program.

**Numbers of Moths per Week (Week 17, ending 8-23-06)**

Trap location	Tobacco Budworm	Corn Earworm (Bollworm)	Beet Armyworm	Southwest. Corn Borer
Hardeman (Bolivar)	0	0	0	---
Fayette (Whiteville)	0	0	0	---
Fayette (Somerville)	0	27	---	1
Shelby (Millington)	33	39	17	---
Shelby (Ag Center)	*	*	---	---
Tipton (Covington)	7	57	10	---
Tipton (West)	5	7	---	0
Haywood (West)	0	0	0	---
Haywood (Brownsville)	0	36	---	---
Madison (Exp. Stn.)	13	3	18	6
Madison (North)	0	9	---	---
Crockett (Alamo)	1	23	3	---
Crockett (Maury City)	6	1	---	---
Dyer (Dyersburg)	0	8	0	---
Dyer (Newbern)	0	11	---	61
Lake (Ridgley)	0	41	0	---
Gibson (Kenton)	0	26	---	---
Gibson (Milan Exp Stn.)	0	67	12	0
Carroll (West)	0	29	4	---
Lauderdale (Goldust)	23	69	42	---

An asterisk (\*) indicates trap was missing, knocked down or not run.

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