

TIMELY INFORMATION

Agriculture & Natural Resources

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AU PEST ALERT: Mid-season insect pests of PEANUTS

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ATTN. PEANUT PRODUCERS: You can now listen to audio version of AU insect advisories; please call 1-800-446-0375 and choose option 1.

Numbers below show insect counts (units = number per trap per week) from recent as well as all the previous weeks, up to 7 August 2009. Most recent insect numbers appear highlighted.

County>>	Southwestern AL				Central AL				Southeastern AL			
	Baldwin	Trend	Washington	Trend	Escambia	Trend	Autauga	Trend	Geneva	Trend	Henry	Trend
Crop insect pest	Population tracker		Population tracker		Population tracker		Population tracker		Population tracker		Population tracker	
Beet armyworm (BAW)	17>>20>> 29	++	20>>14	++	2>>8	++	1>>6>>14	++	23	+	12>>8>>25	++
Fall armyworm (FAW)	1>>13>> 33	++	4>>12	++	12>>11	++	2>>23>>12	+	5		1>>10	+
Southern armyworm (SAW)	1>>4>>5	+	0>>6	+	3>>2	-	0>>4>>1	-	3		1>>NA	+
Cabbage looper (CL)	1>>6>>7	+	1>>0		1>>1		1>>1>>2	+	NA		2>>3	+
Soybean looper (SL)	3>>1>>12	+	1>>0		1>>2		1>>1>>2	+	1		0>>0	-
Corn earworm (CEW)	7>>6>4	+	3>>4	+	2>>4	+	NA>>4>>1	-	7		5>>1>>0	-
Tobacco budworm (TBW)	8>>6>>8	+	0>>1	-	8>>5	+	2>>5>>8	+	0		5>>1>>15	++
Black cutworm (BCW)	0>>1>>0	-	0>>3	-	0>>1		3>>0>>0	-	0		0>>1>>NA	-
Lesser cornstalk borer (LCB)	17>>51>> 65	++	38>>41	++	31>>26	+	58>>94>>55	++	5		5>>20>>75	++
Corn rootworm (CRW)	1>>1>>0	-	0>>0	-	1>>1		0>>0>>4	+	1		12>>1>>0	-
Stink bug (SB)	0>>0>>0	-	NA		0>>0		0>>0>>0	-	1		0>>0	-

+ increasing pest pressure ++pest warning (begin scouting crop to determine actual injury) - declining population

NA = Not available

Comments on peanut insect pest population trends:

- Insect pressures remained high in SW and SE AL counties with a high activity of beet armyworm and fall armyworm. Several armyworm outbreaks have occurred in crops like soybean and cotton. From the trap data shown above, it appears that sustained levels of moths exceeding 11 moths per trap per week could hint to possible future outbreaks. In all crops, always check activity of all caterpillars in the foliage by vigorously shaking the foliage on a beatsheet.
- Loopers are more active in southwestern Alabama than in northern counties. Baldwin County has highest looper moth activity among other surveyed counties.
- Corn earworm and tobacco budworm are increasing slowly in souther counties. Moth activity declined northward.

- Lesser cornstalk borer activity is consistently high in many counties of Alabama; drought conditions will favor peanut attack by this insect. Recently, one grower lost his entire soybean field to cornstalk borer feeding; entry holes of caterpillars were marked with sand tubes and large caterpillars were found inside the soybean stalks. Once the caterpillars enter inside the stalk, it is very difficult to control with insecticides. If you are in a drought-prone area, it is advisable to scout now for lesser cornstalk borer caterpillars at the base of the host plants.
- In general, insect activity appears to be affected by the location of traps. Counties closer to the Florida state line have higher insect activity than counties in central Alabama.

For more information, please visit https://sites.aces.edu/group/commhort/vegetable/Vegetable/alabama_IPM_trap_network.aspx.

Please provide us feedback regarding how you use this information and an approximate savings in insecticide you have made by incorporating this monitoring information into your scouting program on your. Please email azm0024@auburn.edu, call 2513318416 or take the Internet survey available on the above website for submitting your comments. Thank you.