

# TIMELY INFORMATION

## Agriculture & Natural Resources

July 17, 2009

### AU PEST ALERT: Insect counts from IPM pheromone traps in PEANUTS Report developed by Dr. Ayanava Majumdar (Ext. Entomologist) & ACES IPM team members

Numbers indicate insect counts during the past two weeks, up to 10 July 2009.

County>>	Southwestern AL		Central AL		Southeastern AL	
	Baldwin		Autauga		Henry	
	Recent number	Trend	Recent number	Trend	Recent number	Trend
Beet armyworm (BAW)	39	++	1		15	-
Black cutworm (BCW)	1		5	+	2	
Corn earworm (CEW)	11	+			2	-
Tobacco budworm (TBW)	13	-	4		2	-
Fall armyworm (FAW)	25	++	3		1	
Southern armyworm (SAW)	9	+	0		1	
Cabbage looper (CL)	11	+	1		4	
Soybean looper (SL)	2	-	2		0	
Corn rootworm (CRW)	2				2	-
Stink bug (SB)	0		0		0	
Lesser cornstalk borer (LCSB)	102	++	115	++	40	+

+ increasing pest pressure    ++pest warning (begin scouting crop to determine actual injury)    - declining population  
NA = Not available

Comments on peanut insect pest population trends:

- Population trends, if indicated in the table, have been estimated by comparing insect counts from at least two consecutive observations. **Remember that insect detection with traps does not mean that it is time to treat!** Insect species, crop field, irrigation/dryland conditions, plant growth, etc. should be taken into account before treatment decision is made. Consult a crop advisor/Extension Agent before making expensive treatment decisions and protect environment.
- Overall, insect pressure in Baldwin County is about twice that of Henry County based purely on trap counts indicating higher risk of insects to peanuts.
- CEW moth population around peanut fields increased slightly in June. In July, CEW and TBW populations are expected to be at par. **Early caterpillars of TBW and CEW look very similar; so use of pheromone traps can help you to automatically identify the species present and to act accordingly.**
- FAW numbers are increasing in southern AL counties, so keep a close watch for armyworms in fields with a history of this insect. FAW has a 30 d lifecycle in summer with female moths capable of laying over 1,500 eggs in scattered masses under leaves...so populations reach high damaging levels very quickly
- Traps in Baldwin County indicated a rising population of cabbage loopers and slightly declining population of soybean loopers. Both insects may increase rapidly on peanuts and become a significant late season pest in certain areas.
- Dry weather that preceded the recent rainfall in central and southern AL was ideal for LCSB moths and trap catches were high. Crop scouting in peanut also indicated presence of LCSB caterpillars in soil, although larval numbers were at low levels in the peanut research plots in Baldwin Co.

For more information, please visit [https://sites.aces.edu/group/commhort/vegetable/Vegetable/alabama\\_IPM\\_trap\\_network.aspx](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](mailto:azm0024@auburn.edu), call 2513318416 or take the Internet survey available on the above website for submitting your comments. Thank you.

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