

# TIMELY INFORMATION

## Agriculture & Natural Resources

September, 28, 2009

### AU Insect Advisory: Late-season VEGETABLE insect pest activity in Alabama

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**ATTN. VEGETABLE PRODUCERS:** You can also listen to AU insect advisories; please call toll free **1-800-446-0375** and choose option 2.

**TEXT MESSAGE FOR INSECT ALERTS:** to receive text message on your cell phone about insect happenings around the state, please email your PHONE NUMBER with area code and service provider information to [bugdoctor@auburn.edu](mailto:bugdoctor@auburn.edu). Do it now and get ready for next year TODAY!

Numbers below show insect counts (*units = number per trap per week*) from recent as well as all the previous observations (earlier months). Most recent insect numbers from September traps appear highlighted in the table.

County>>	North AL		Central AL		South AL	
	Limestone	Cullman	Chilton	Clay	Mobile	Houston
	Moth numbers in traps (per week)	Moth numbers in traps (av. per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (av. per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (av. per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (per wk)
Beet armyworm (BAW)	2, 2, 3, <b>2</b>	3, 7, <b>5 (July)</b>	2, 2, 10, <b>29</b>	0, 1, 2, <b>14</b>	NA, 18, 20, <b>32</b>	4, 39, <b>39 (July)</b>
Fall armyworm (FAW)	2, 3, 4, <b>32</b>	3, 6, <b>19 (July)</b>	2, 2, 2, <b>25</b>	2, 2, 30, <b>8</b>	13, 26, 6, <b>19</b>	5, 8, <b>7 (July)</b>
Southern armyworm (SAW)	NA, 0, <b>0</b>	NA	NA, 2, <b>12</b>	NA, 0, <b>2</b>	3, 6, 2, <b>13</b>	NA
Cabbage looper (CL)	NA	NA	NA	2, 0, 2, <b>3</b>	2, 6, <b>7</b>	NA
Soybean looper (SL)	NA	NA	NA	NA	16, 2, 10, <b>11</b>	NA
Corn earworm (CEW)	0, 1, 5, <b>6</b>	5, 1, <b>9 (July)</b>	13, 7, 13, <b>18</b>	1, 2, 0, <b>3</b>	2, 7, 1, <b>13</b>	1, 2, <b>7 (July)</b>
Tobacco budworm (TBW)	0, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	0, 2, <b>0 (July)</b>	2, 2, 3, <b>7</b>	1, 1, 1, <b>0</b>	NA, 2, 1, <b>3</b>	0, 1, <b>4 (July)</b>
Black cutworm (BCW)	0, 0, 1, <b>3</b>	1, 4, <b>0 (July)</b>	0, 1, 7, <b>1</b>	3, 2, 2, <b>0</b>	4, 0, 3, <b>1</b>	0, 1, <b>5 (July)</b>
European corn borer (ECB)	0, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	0, 0, <b>0 (July)</b>	0, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	0, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	0, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	<b>0 (July)</b>
Corn rootworm (CRW)	4, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	0, 10*, <b>24* (July)</b>	6, 17, 0, <b>0</b>	11*, 6**, 5***, <b>1*</b>	NA	NA
Stink bug (SB)	0, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	0, <b>0 (July)</b>	0, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	NA	0, 0, 0, <b>0</b>	NA
Tomato pinworm (TPW)	NA	0 ( <b>July</b> )	0, <b>0</b>	0, <b>2</b>	0, 1, <b>0</b>	NA
Diamondback moth (DBM)	NA	1 ( <b>July</b> )	0, <b>0</b>	0, <b>4</b>	0, <b>12</b>	NA

NA = Not available

southern + 3 western CRW

\*all specimens were the southern CRW

\*\*4 southern CRW + 2 western CRW

\*\*\*2

	Limestone	Cullman	Chilton	Clay	Mobile	Houston
<b>SOME INSECT POPULATION TRENDS...</b>	Fall armyworm is by far the highest in activity and I will not be surprised if this insect inflicted crop damage in certain parts of this and other counties. Beet armyworm was present throughout the season at very low levels. It is interesting to note that while there is a small corn earworm population in north Alabama, the traps failed to detect any tobacco budworm moth activity.	Cullman had an interesting pattern of activity for armyworms and corn rootworms. Population of both armyworms increased 2 to 6 times in July while the rootworm adult capture increased from 0 to 24 indicating substantial populations of beetles near corn fields being monitored. Based on observations from Mobile (data shown) and Baldwin (data not shown) counties, rootworm activity in southern counties appeared to be low through the season.	It is interesting to observe the mixer of armyworm species that have been detected in Chilton. Southern armyworm has a substantial presence at the site being monitored and moth numbers are similar to that from Mobile County. Corn rootworm populations were detected early in season (June) but beetle numbers were very low or none in Aug./Sept.	Most noticeable trend in Clay Co. traps was the occurrence of two species of corn rootworms in July and August. At present (SEPT.), southern CRW is again the predominant species detected at very low levels in beetle traps. Armyworm populations are a mixture of three species. Corn earworm and tobacco budworm were detected in very low numbers in these traps.	Due to the hot and humid weather conditions in Mobile co, our insect traps were busy capturing insects for most of the season and even today. While beet armyworm populations consistently increased through the season, moth activity of fall armyworms decreased slightly in August. Armyworm populations continue to be a mixed population of BAW, FAW, and SAW. Southern armyworm was high in Chilton and Mobile Counties which is an interesting observation.	This was the only location among all trapping locations where there was some black cutworm moth activity in June/July. Beet armyworm activity was about 5 times greater than fall armyworm activity.

*YOUR FEEDBACK IS NEEDED: For more information about the Alabama insect monitoring project, please visit [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=7rAznDeoS1N1BTmBR8AAew\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=7rAznDeoS1N1BTmBR8AAew_3d_3d). Please provide us feedback regarding how you used insect advisories and approximate savings in insecticide you have made by filling online survey on above webpage. You can also email [bugdoctor@auburn.edu](mailto:bugdoctor@auburn.edu) or call 2513318416 for providing your comments & suggestions. Thank you.*