

TIMELY INFORMATION

Agriculture & Natural Resources

September 28, 2009

AU INSECT ADVISORY: Late-season insect pest activity in PEANUTS

Report by Dr. Ayanava Majumdar (Ext. Entomologist) & ACES IPM team members

Harvest season for peanuts is upon us. The Alabama Extension Insect Monitoring Team wishes you a bountiful harvest.

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

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. 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 trapping appear highlighted in the table.

County>>	Southwest AL		South central AL		Southeastern AL	
	Baldwin	Washington	Escambia	Autauga	Geneva	Henry
	Moth numbers in traps (per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (per wk)	Moth numbers in traps (per wk)
Beet armyworm (BAW)	17, 20, 29	20, 14, 13, 17	2, 8, 6, 5	1, 6, 14, 15	23, 14, 5	12, 8, 25, 21
Fall armyworm (FAW)	1, 13, 33	4, 12, 9, 13	12, 11, 5, 4	2, 23, 12, 19	5, 6, 7	1, 10, 30
Southern armyworm (SAW)	1, 4, 5	0, 6, 6, 6	3, 2, 3, 8	0, 4, 1, 3	2, 5, 2	1, NA, 5
Cabbage looper (CL)	1, 6, 7	1, 0, 1, 4	1, 1, 1, 6	1, 1, 2, 3	NA	2, 3, 6
Soybean looper (SL)	3, 1, 12	1, 0, 0, 1	1, 2, 2, 2	1, 1, 2, 2	1, 1, 0	0, 0, 7
Corn earworm (CEW)	7, 6, 4	3, 4, 3, 6	2, 4, 4, 2	NA, 4, 1, NA	7, 2, 4	5, 1, 0, 8
Tobacco budworm (TBW)	8, 6, 8	0, 1, 2, 5	8, 5, 0, 0	2, 5, 8, 3	0, 0, 0	5, 1, 15, 20
Black cutworm (BCW)	0, 1, 0	0, 3, 3, 4	0, 1, 1, 1	3, 0, 0, 0	0, 0, 1	0, 1, NA, 3
Lesser cornstalk borer (LCB)	17, 51, 65	38, 41, 38, 67	31, 26, 23, 33	58, 94, 55, 80	52, 33, 30	5, 20, 75, 88
Corn rootworm (CRW)	1, 1, 0	0, 0, 0, 0	1, 1, 6, 0	0, 0, 4, 1	1, 0, 0	12, 1, 0, 0
Stink bug (SB)	0, 0, 0	NA	NA	0, 0, 0, 0	1, 0, 0	0, 0, 0, 0

<p>FEW OBSERVATIONS FROM CROP SCOUTING...</p>	<p>Armyworm pressures continue to increase in southwest Alabama along with a rising population of late season foliar pests. During crop scouting, I have seen very high numbers of velvetbean caterpillars and loopers on peanut foliage in many counties but it is too late for the insects to do any economic injury. So do nothing even if you see >3 caterpillars per row foot because it is close to the harvest time. Growers in sandy areas and high/dry areas should look at the pod damage from caterpillars because LCB moths have been very active in southern counties. Keep a record of pod damage and check populations early next year with pheromone traps.</p>	<p>Beet and fall armyworms are about 50% each among a mixed population of moths. Growers north of Washington Co. (in Clarke, Monroe, etc.) have applied chemical treatments for LCB but impact of those sprays remain unclear. Keep watch on LCB populations next year and watch for rapid population buildups. Do not apply any treatments this year; it is too late. Traps for stink bugs had several problems related to weather conditions, trap design, loss of lures, etc.; so we have insufficient data on stink bug populations for all locations.</p>	<p>Unusually high levels of lesser cornstalk borer moth activity is interesting to me. Again, armyworm populations are mix of beet and fall armyworms with a low but persistence presence of the southern armyworm. Tobacco budworm appears to be quite active throughout the season. Try to use pheromone traps to distinguish TBW and corn earworms.</p>	<p>Southeast AL county had highest LCB moth activity that needs to be watched over the years. Adequate amounts of rainfall could have prevented LCB caterpillars to do much crop damage; scout your peanut pods to locate feeding injury. Very high tobacco budworm activity was also noticed which should alert growers to use appropriate labeled insecticide after confirming the species present (TBW larvae look similar in field).</p>
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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. 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 or call 2513318416 for providing your comments & suggestions. Thank you.