

<http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/entomology/extension/extension.htm>

Kansas Insect Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, and Extension Personnel

Department of Entomology
239 West Waters Hall
K-State Research and Extension
Manhattan, KS 66506-4027

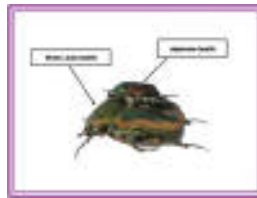
Tel: 785-532-5891
Fax: 785-532-6258



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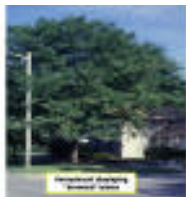
“What’s the buzz?.....”

There have been recent and frequent reports of flying “buzzing insects”. These are green June beetles. Although considered menacing because their buzzing is reminiscent of buzzing bumble bees, green June beetles are **COMPLETELY HARMLESS**. Upon close examination, they are beautifully colored insects. “Green” is the predominant color of their “velvety” wing covers, although some specimens maybe predominantly tannish. Viewed from below, their abdomens have a green, bronze or reddish/pink metallic sheen. Some people think that they are seeing Japanese beetles. However, Japanese beetles are significantly smaller and have distinct white hair tufts lining the sides of their abdomens.



Green June Beetle and Japanese Beetle

“Browning” of honeylocust.....



Honeylocust displaying "browned" leaves



Closeup of "browned" leaves



Note webbing and fecal pellets

Typically at this time of year, people report “brown dead leaves” on honeylocust trees. The dead leaves are the leaflets which are held together by webbing. By prying the webbed leaflets apart, one will note many fecal pellets. Occasionally a first generation mimosa webworm will be spotted, although at this point in time, most will have completed their development. Some drop to the ground where they pupate. Others pupate within the web mass. First generation moths will soon emerge, mate and deposit eggs for the second generation of larvae which, by the end of August, will have taken over entire trees.

The control of mimosa webworms is difficult. They are unpredictable in terms of when and where they will occur. While it would be logical to expect them to occur where (in the previous year) their presence was noted, such is no guarantee of their presence the ensuing year. Additionally, if protective sprays were applied, they would have to be timed to coincide with the appearance of moths from overwintered pupae ---- pheromone traps would be useful for monitoring this event except that the mimosa webworm moth pheromone has not been identified and made commercially available.

Similarly, timing insecticidal sprays to control the second generation is complicated. Even if the adult emergence patterns were definable, many larvae pupate within their web mass and new moths mate and deposit eggs within the protection of the web mass. Furthermore, insecticide applications are beyond the capability of homeowners to achieve coverage of large trees. Despite the “dire appearance” of trees in late summer, they are alive and well, and the following spring, will appear normal and none-the-worse-for-wear.



August 27, 2001



Spring, 2002

Bob Bauernfeind

Second Generation Corn Borer:

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we have had some reports of noticeable first generation corn borer so now we need to start thinking about second generation egg laying on any non-corn borer resistant corn. Historically mid to late July is when we see peak second generation egg laying. One way to determine when to start looking for eggs is to monitor the progress of first generation larva. If you have noticed some first generation larvae in your area, consider splitting a few stocks every week to determine if they have started to pupate and to see if any moths have emerged from the pupae. Once you begin to find empty pupal cases it

is time to begin scouting for corn borer eggs.

If second-generation control is considered, treatment should generally be applied where field inspection reveals an average of between 10 to 20 egg masses per 100 plants. Egg mass counts should include both hatched and unhatched egg masses. The sampling should be most intensive within 10 to 12 days after first eggs are laid. Typically, 70 to 85 percent of the eggs are laid on the seven leaves nearest the ear (ear leaf and three leaves above or below). Subsamples should be taken from several locations to obtain a representative sample.

Corn borer management options are listed on our web site at: <http://www.entomology.ksu.edu/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabindex=185&tabid=400> and in the Corn Insect Management Guide: <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/library/ENTML2/Mf810.pdf>

Note that there are special restrictions for treating corn borer on refuge for corn rootworm resistant corn. Often the rootworm refuge can not be treated for corn borer with insecticides labeled for corn rootworms if corn rootworms are present. Check the grower agreements and IRM requirements for each rootworm resistant hybrid carefully when planning your corn borer management options.

Phil Sloderbeck

Sunflower Moth:

As sunflowers begin to bloom they should be scouted for head moth. Scouting must be done frequently because migratory moths can appear in large numbers virtually overnight. When populations are high, moths may be detected by walking through the fields at any time of day and watching for moths to fly up as plants are approached. When populations are lower it may be best to scout fields after dark with a flashlight and look for moths resting on the opening blooms. The treatment threshold is around one or two moths per five plants. After treatment, scouting should continue every two to three days until plants reach the R5.9 stage.

It will be interesting to see what head moth populations do this year. With the drought here and to the south there is a chance that head moth populations could be lighter than normal.

Treatment information can be found at: <http://www.entomology.ksu.edu/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabindex=345&tabid=547> or in the Sunflower Insect Management Guide: <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/library/entml2/MF814.PDF>



Head moth

Phil Sloderbeck

New insecticide label - Delta Gold:

Delta Gold is a new insecticide product from Agrilience labeled on a variety of pests and crops. It contains the active ingredient deltamethrin in a 1.5 lb/gallon formulation.

It is identical to Decis 1.5EC, formulation previously sold by Bayer. Bayer acquired Decis when they purchased Agrevo, although it has not been actively marketed in Kansas it has been widely used in other states.

Agrilience has acquired the rights to this formulation of deltamethrin from Bayer and will now be the exclusive marketer. Decis 1.5 will be discontinued. All relevant data supplied or developed on Decis 1.5EC should be applicable to Delta Gold.

The Delta Gold label is on CDMS: <http://www.cdms.net/ldat/ld7DL000.pdf>

Jeff Whitworth and Phil Sloderbeck

Cattail Caterpillars:

Photos Courtesy of Ryan Higbie, Johnson County Extension Office

Received calls the last two weeks relative to cattail caterpillars in sorghum. These insects are frequently found in sorghum and are rather distinctive. However, they've never attained densities that would cause an economic loss, at least not that we've heard about. They will feed on the leaves and around the whorl causing concern to growers and consultants. However, at this stage of growth, the sorghum plant can withstand considerable leaf feeding without significant effect on yield. There is no established economic injury level or treatment threshold in Kansas, as they've just not been enough of an economic problem to justify the expenditure of research dollars to establish either. Most of the larvae I've seen are relatively mature and probably won't be feeding much longer, thus most "damage" has been done. If feeding continues or head damage becomes apparent please call or email us ASAP.



Cattail Caterpillars



Second Picture of Cattail Caterpillars

Jeff Whitworth

European Corn Borer:

All photos in this article were provided by Marlin Rice, Iowa State University

Calls received from around the state indicate European corn borers (ECB) are, for the most part, pupating (Figure 1) or have emerged as adults (Figure 2) and thus, are laying eggs of the 2nd generation.



European Corn Borer pupating



Emerged as adults

So if your corn insect management includes ECB's you're probably starting to scout. Scouting is the recommended survey technique and, wherever possible, should consist of five random samples of 20 consecutive plants from widely separated locales within each field. Samples should consist of visually examining all leaves, especially the ear leaf and the three leaves immediately above and below the ear leaf, on both the upper and lower surface for the presence of eggs (figures 3). As egg masses mature, the black head capsule of the developing larvae becomes visible. This is called the "black-head" stage and hatching will usually occur within 24-36 hours). These 2nd generation larvae (figure 4) "feed" their way toward the stalk and fairly quickly bore into the tassels, ear shanks, ears, and stalks (figure 5).



Leaf presence of eggs



"Black-head" stage



Bore into tassels, ear shanks, ears, and stalks

Once larvae have bored into the tassels, ear shanks, etc. they generally are not vulnerable to insecticides. Therefore, timing is critical as the treatment window is not very long. Treatment for 2nd generation is usually justified if you find at least 10 egg masses per 100 plants or if 50% of the plants have live larvae feeding on leaves, leaf axils, behind leaf sheaths, etc. but have not yet bored into some plant part making them inaccessible to insecticides. More than one application may be required if fresh eggs are still observed 7-10 days after the first treatment. A list of insecticides registered for ECB control is available at your county extension office.

Jeff Whitworth

Weekly Report from the Kansas State University Insect Diagnostic Laboratory:

The following samples were submitted to the Insect Diagnostic Laboratory from June 30, through July 11, 2006:

- 6-30-2006, Leavenworth County: False Chinch Bugs on Soybean.
- 6-30-2006, Shawnee County: Darkwinged Fungus Gnats on home, door.
- 7-5-2006, Stevens County: Bot Fly larva from skin of a Dog.
- 7-5-2006, Sedgwick County: Digger Bees in garden.
- 7-6-2006, Trego County: Oak Kermes Scale on Bur Oak.
- 7-6-2006, Rawlins County: False Chinch Bugs on Cabbage.
- 7-7-2006, Norton County: Corinnid Sac Spider in garage.
- 7-7-2006, Pottawatomie County: Springtail in bedroom.
- 7-10-2006, Miami County: Hister Beetles, Muscid larva in lawn.
- 7-11-2006, Nemaha County: Horsehair Worm in toilet.

If there are any questions regarding these samples or about the identification of any arthropod please contact the Insect Diagnostician at 785-532-4739 or at bbrown@ksu.edu

Bobby Brown

Brand names appearing in this publication are for product identification purposes only. No endorsement is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products not mentioned.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Bauernfeind
Extension Specialist
Horticultural Entomology

Jeff Whitworth
Extension Specialist
Entomology (Crops)

Phil Sloderbeck
Southwest Research and Extension Center
Entomology - Garden City, KS

Bobby Brown
Entomology Diagnostician