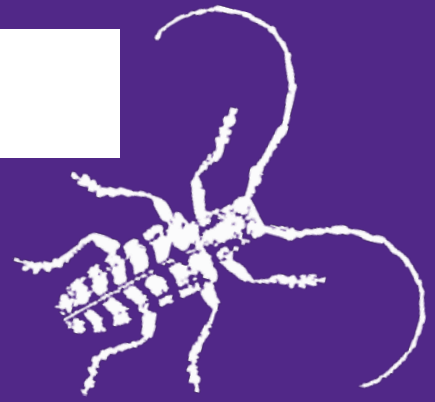


Kansas State University Extension Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

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Alfalfa Update

Wheat Update

Alfalfa Update

Alfalfa in north central Kansas doesn't seem to be in the overwintering mode yet. It is still growing, albeit slowly. But, the unusual situation this warmer-than-average fall weather has caused is with alfalfa weevils. On 16 November, several alfalfa fields were sampled in north central KS and many adult alfalfa weevils were captured. However, the unique situation was the sampling of many alfalfa weevil larvae. Some leaf feeding by these larvae was also evident. These insects are normally univoltine (one generation of alfalfa weevils/year). The adults are moving, or have moved, back into the alfalfa fields by now and started laying eggs. Eggs laid in the fall are not normally developed enough to hatch this time of year. Late February is usually the earliest that alfalfa weevil eggs hatch. After the coming cold front moves through and temperatures warm back up we will re-sample to determine how the cold temperatures impacted these larvae.

Adult Alfalfa Weevil



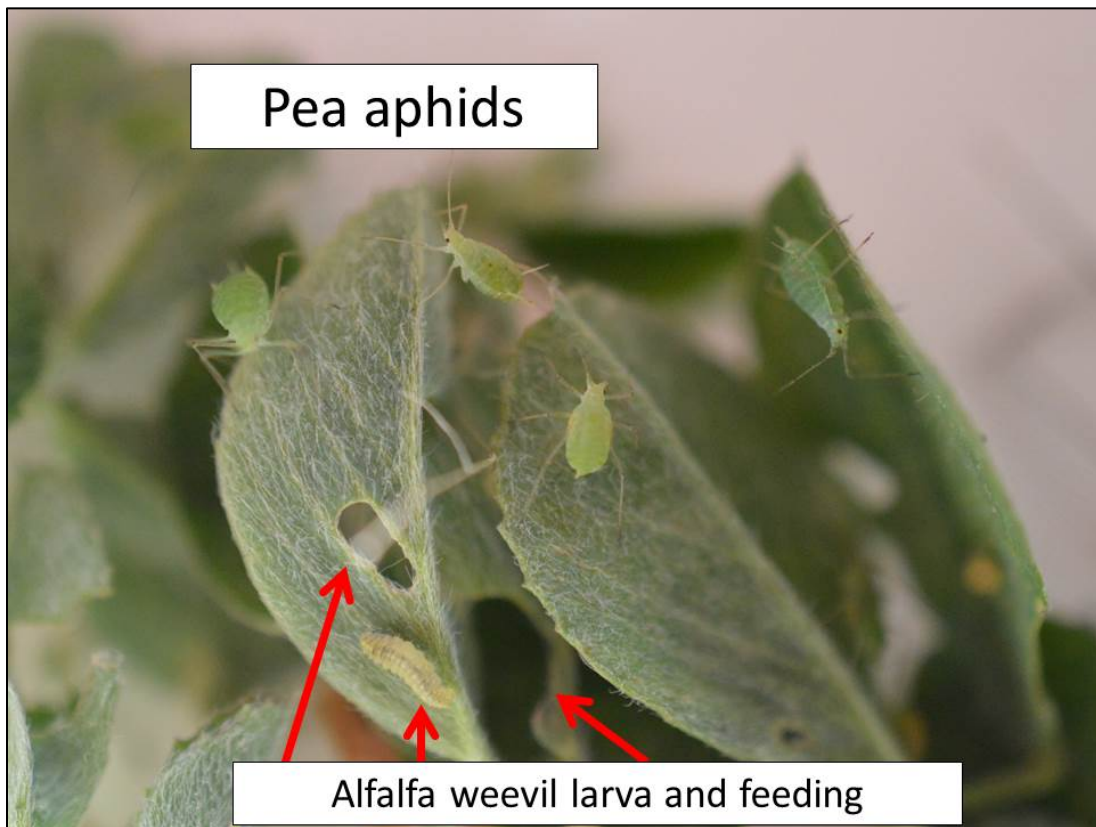
Alfalfa weevil larvae collected on 16 Nov.



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Also, there are many pea aphids present which is not as unusual for this time of year. Numerous lady beetles are also present but they do not seem to be feeding on either pea aphids or alfalfa weevil larvae.



Jeff Whitworth

Holly Schwarting

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Wheat Update

Very few wheat aphids have been noted recently in north central KS. There are a few present but there are also numerous lady beetles so hopefully, the lady beetles will take care of any migrating aphids relatively quickly.

Jeff Whitworth

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Sincerely,

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