

Kansas State University Extension Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

Department of Entomology
123 West Waters Hall
K-State Research and Extension
Manhattan, Kansas 66506
785-532-5891
<http://blogs.k-state.edu/kansasbugs/>
<http://www.entomology.ksu.edu/extension>



April 24, 2019 #3

Alfalfa Weevil Update

Alfalfa Weevil Update

Alfalfa weevil development is/has proceeded quite rapidly, and many fields have required an insecticide application. Pictured here is a representative sample of alfalfa plants from a non-treated field and a close-up from that field.



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Using the stem shake bucket method of sampling, this untreated field still had an average of 8+ larvae/stem at different developmental stages. Plus, pupation had already begun in that field.



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In contrast are the plants representative of a field that was treated on 5 April, which had already exceeded the 1 larva/ 2 stems, or 50% infested, treatment threshold. However, larvae are still hatching and developing, and the feeding damage is starting to become apparent again.



Alfalfa treated for AW on 5 April



AW larvae from 3 stems in treated (5 April) field



Alfalfa treated for AW on 5 April – showing feeding from AW post treatment

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Thus, alfalfa fields should continue to be monitored for at least another 10-14 days for the need of a 2nd insecticide application or, if possible, swathing. If insecticide applications are deemed warranted, be sure to check the label for the pre-harvest interval (PHI) requirement for the insecticide used.

For more information regarding alfalfa weevil management please refer to the KSU Alfalfa Insect Management Guide: <https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/mf809.pdf>

Jeff Whitworth

Holly Davis

HOME

Sincerely,

Jeff Whitworth
Extension Specialist
Field Crops
phone: 785/532-5656
e-mail: jwhitwor@ksu.edu

Holly Schwarting
Research Associate
Phone: (785) 532-4730
e-mail: holly3@ksu.edu

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Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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