

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>



July 31, 2020 No. 17

Mimosa Webworm
New Extension Publications
ID to last week's bug
Identify This Insect
Green June Beetle Adult
Soybeans – been leaf beetles, grasshoppers

Mimosa Webworm

Damage associated with mimosa webworm (*Homadaula anisocentra*) larvae/caterpillars is now quite prevalent on honeylocust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) and mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*) trees throughout regions of Kansas. The larvae/caterpillars are 1/2 inch long when fully-grown (Figure 1) and rapidly move backward when disturbed. Caterpillars' web leaves together on the ends of branches (Figure 2). Webbing, in general, starts at the tops of trees and protects caterpillars from natural enemies (parasitoids and predators) and insecticide spray applications. Heavily infested trees are brown or scorched in appearance (Figures 3 and 4) as the caterpillars skeletonize the leaf tissue. Caterpillars eventually fall from trees on a silken strand before pupating. Mimosa webworm pupates in bark crevices or pupae are attached to structures (e.g. buildings). There are two generations per year in Kansas.



Figure 1. Mimosa Webworm Caterpillars Feeding On Leaves (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)



Figure 2. Mimosa Webworm Webbing On End Of Branch (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)



Figure 3. Mimosa Webworm Caterpillar Feeding Damage (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)



Figure 4. Extensive Feeding Damage Caused By Mimosa Webworm Caterpillars (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)

Regarding management of mimosa webworm, it is too late to apply an insecticide if trees are already heavily infested with webbing because caterpillars are protected from spray applications of insecticides inside the leaf webbing. However, next year (2021), you can manage mimosa webworm caterpillar populations by applying an insecticide when the caterpillars are initially present and exposed to insecticide spray applications. Insecticides that contain the following active ingredients can be used: *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *kurstaki*, spinosad, bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, and permethrin. Read the label of each product to ensure that “webworms” are listed. High-volume spray applications are required to contact the

Kansas Insect Newsletter

July 31, 2020 No. 17

caterpillars. If possible, selective pruning can quickly remove isolated or localized infestations of mimosa webworm.

Raymond Cloyd

HOME

New Extension Publications

Elm Leaf Beetle: Insect Pest of Elm Trees (<https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF3537.pdf>)

Whiteflies: Management in Greenhouse Production Systems
(<https://www.bookstore.ksre.ksu.edu/pubs/MF3532.pdf>)

Raymond Cloyd

HOME

ID to last week's bug

Assassin bug nymph - This nymph uses its piercing sucking mouthparts to inject paralyzing and pre-digestive enzymes into its prey. These nymphs look nothing like the adult wheel bug, which they will become. Both the adult and nymph can inflict a painful bite if handled.

Can you identify this insect and what it will become as an adult?



Identify This Insect

Can you identify this insect and what substance it produces?



Frannie Miller

[HOME](#)

Green June Beetle Adult

Green June beetle, *Cotinis nitida*, adults are flying around in massive numbers near managed and/or unmanaged grassy areas, and occasionally 'bumping' into people and objects. Adults are 3/4 to 1.0 inch long, velvety-green, and tinged with yellow-brown coloration (Figures 1 and 2).

Figure 1. Green June Beetle Adult (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)



Figure 2. Green June Beetle Adult (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)



Green stripes with yellow-orange margins extend lengthwise on the front wings. The underside of the body is distinctly shiny and metallic green or gold. Adults resemble 'dive bombers' flying around for several weeks in July. Green June beetle adults are sometimes confused with Japanese beetle (*Popilla japonica*) adults; however, they really do not look alike (Figures 3 and 4).

Figure 3. Green June Beetle Adult (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)



Figure 4. Japanese Beetle Adult (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)





Figure 5. Green June Beetle Adults Feeding On Fruit (Raymond Cloyd, KSU)

Green June beetle has a one-year life cycle, and overwinters as a mature larva or grub. Adults generally emerge in late-June and are active during the day, resting at night on plants, in thatch, or in compost. Adults produce a sound similar to that of bumble bees. Adults feed on ripening fruits (Figure 5) and corn tassels, and may feed on the leaves of oak and maple trees. Male beetles swarm in the morning, 'dive bombing' to-and-fro just above managed and/or unmanaged grassy areas where females are located. Females emit a pheromone that attracts the males. Clusters of beetles may be seen on the surface of the

soil or in grassy areas with several males attempting to mate with a single female, resulting in an 'insect orgy.' Mated females that survive the 'experience' will lay clusters of 10 to 30 eggs in moist soil that contains high amount of organic matter.

Raymond Cloyd

[HOME](#)

SOYBEANS – bean leaf beetles, grasshoppers

Many fields were sampled throughout southcentral and northcentral Kansas over the last couple of days. There seems to be very few insect pests affecting these soybeans, so far. There are some adult bean leaf beetles, which should be monitored as beans start or continue, setting pods as these beetles can start feeding on these new pods. There are a few adult Decte's stem borers (fig. 1), but not many oviposition holes could be found yet. The only potential problem detected this week were grasshoppers. Weedy/grassy borders adjacent to many fields are loaded with grasshoppers. These areas are still lush and green so far, thus most grasshopper infested areas are still sufficient for these grasshoppers to feed in so they have not yet migrated to crop fields. However, there are some areas that have been treated with herbicides and thus these weeds are/or have died in these areas. Grasshoppers are/have moved into crops--in this case, soybeans (fig 2-3). Continued monitoring is highly recommended and please do not make a pesticide application "just in case", and please send me an email if soybean aphids are detected.



Figure 1 Ductes Stem Borer (Cody Wyckoff)



Figure 2 Grasshopper hiding/ feeding (Cody Wyckoff)



Figure 3 "Chewed" Soybean leaf (Cody Wyckoff)

Kansas Insect Newsletter

July 31, 2020 No. 17

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

Raymond A. Cloyd
Professor and Extension Specialist
Horticultural Entomology/Integrated Pest Management
Phone: 785-532-4750
Fax: 785-532-6232
e-mail: rcloyd@ksu.edu

Frannie Miller
Pesticide Safety & IPM Coordinator
Kansas State University
600 W. Woodside
McPherson, KS 67460
Phone: (620) 241-1523
Fax: (620) 241-3407
<http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/pesticides-ipm>



Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact *LOCAL NAME, PHONE NUMBER*. (For TDD, contact Michelle White-Godinet, Assistant Director of Affirmative Action, Kansas State University, 785-532-4807.)

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, as amended. Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating, , Ernie Minton, Director.