

Kansas State University Extension Entomology Newsletter

For Agribusinesses, Applicators, Consultants, Extension Personnel & Homeowners

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July 16, 2021 No 15

Corn Rootworms
Whiteflies
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Corn Rootworms

Western corn rootworm adults have been emerging throughout north central Kansas since at least 6 July. One relatively easy and quick method of detecting corn rootworm adults if they emerge prior to tasseling/silking is to look for characteristic signs that the adults have/are emerging and feeding on leaves (see fig. 1) This type of leaf feeding, where the beetles just feed on the top side of the leaf, is very characteristic of adult western corn rootworms-- this type of leaf injury can be from other causes, but is very symptomatic of adult western corn rootworms. They will move up to feed on the silks, however, when they start emerging (see fig. 2, from 14 July). Please remember, if there is a 50%+ adult infestation (5 adults/10 plants, etc.) this year in any continuous corn fields, those fields should be considered for a corn rootworm control method (adult spray this year-crop rotation, etc.) if destined for corn next year.



Figure 1. CRW leaf feeding



Figure 2. Corn rootworms (note the gravid female at the top)

Jeff Whitworth – Field Crops

Whiteflies

Whiteflies (see fig. 3) are very common in soybeans throughout most of the eastern half of Kansas. This is not uncommon, but they seem to be more plentiful this year. However, there is no treatment threshold or even any problems that have been determined from these tiny whiteflies in Kansas soybeans. Potato leafhoppers are also still very common in soybeans where they also never seem to have much impact.



Figure 3. Whitefly

Also, at least for the last week, most soybean fields seemed to have very few defoliators.

Beneficial's

Beneficial's continue to be very active throughout all crop fields in the eastern half of Kansas (please see fig 4--pink spotted lady beetle depositing eggs, 15 July). Thus, the practice of just adding an insecticide into any tank mix with fungicides and /or herbicides "just in case" is NOT recommended. Please ensure any targeted pest meets, or is close to, a treatment threshold before utilizing an insecticide application.



Figure 4. Pink Spotted Lady Beetle depositing eggs (pic by Kaysie Morris)

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Bug Joke of the Week

Q. Why was the firefly arrested?
A. For flashing in public.

Sharon Schroll

HOME

Sincerely,

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Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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