



Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter

Volume 16, Issue #7 Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

11 June 2021

Pest Patrol Alerts

The information contained herein each issue is available via text alerts that direct users to online recordings. I will update the short message often for at least as long as the newsletter runs. After a new message is posted, a text message is sent to alert users that I have recorded a new update. Users can subscribe for text message alerts for my updates in two easy steps. Step one: register by texting **pestpat7** to 97063. Step two: reply to the confirmation text you receive by texting the letter “y” to complete your registration. Pest Patrol Alerts are sponsored by Syngenta.

Updates on Twitter

When noteworthy events happen in the field, I will be sending them out quickly via Twitter. If you want to follow those quick updates, follow me at [@bugdocisin](#) on Twitter.



News from Around the State

No news to report from around the state this week, as it remains relatively quiet regarding insect issues in cotton and soybeans.

Scouting Workshops and Field Days

We will offer several in-field, in-person workshops devoted to scouting for insect issues in cotton and soybeans in 2021. These scouting workshops will likely be on **28 July** (Manning or Sumter area), **29 July** (Cameron), and on **30 July** (Edisto REC in Blackville), so please hold the date for your area, if you would like to attend. We will also have an in-person field day here at the Edisto REC on 2 September 2021, with at least row crops (cotton, soybeans, peanuts, corn, grain sorghum, etc.) covered. Stay tuned for details on those events.



Cotton Situation

As of 6 June 2021, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 90% of the crop has been planted, compared with 85% at this time last week, 82% at this time last year, and 89% for the 5-year average. The conditions of the crop were 5% excellent, 57% good, 20% fair, 17% poor, and 1% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

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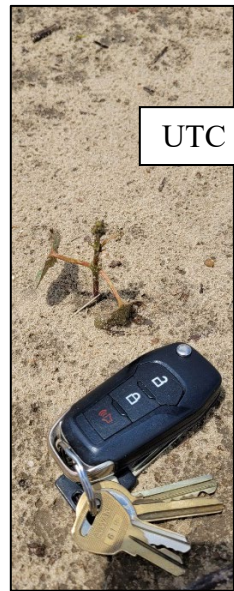
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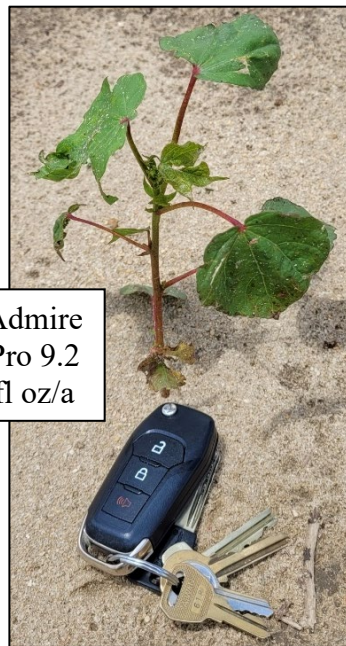


Cotton Insects

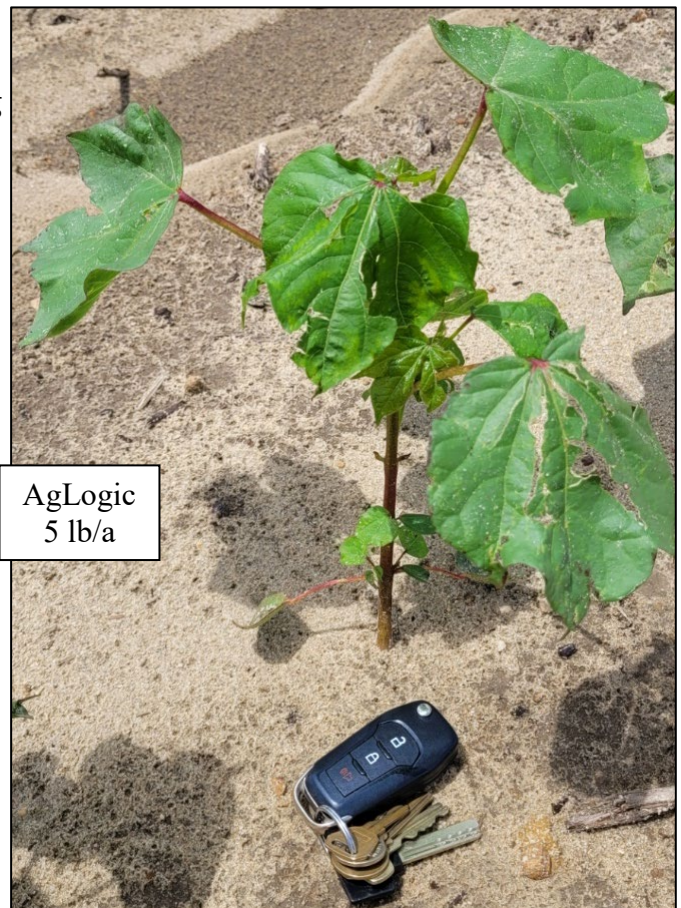
Thrips are still causing problems in some areas on young cotton, and some of our crop has moved into squaring and the plant-bug and aphid window. We will transition in the next couple of weeks into talking more about plant bugs and aphids, but dramatic differences in injury from thrips were advanced/pronounced in my plots this week, so I took some photos. In a test where we observed the highest injury from thrips, plants were killed and stunted severely if no at-plant insecticide was used. In contrast, where we used a good at-plant insecticide for thrips, injury was barely noticeable. For examples, look at the photos below of a plant from an untreated plot, a plant from a plot treated with an in-furrow spray of imidacloprid (Admire Pro at 9.2 fl oz/a), and a plant from a plot treated with aldicarb (AgLogic at 5 lb/a). The differences are huge, particularly if I make my truck key fob about the same size in each photo to show the proper scale for comparison. This was in a big open field that was disked and bedded, planted early, and set up for failure. Many factors can lead to high pressure from thrips, with some of them controllable and some not.



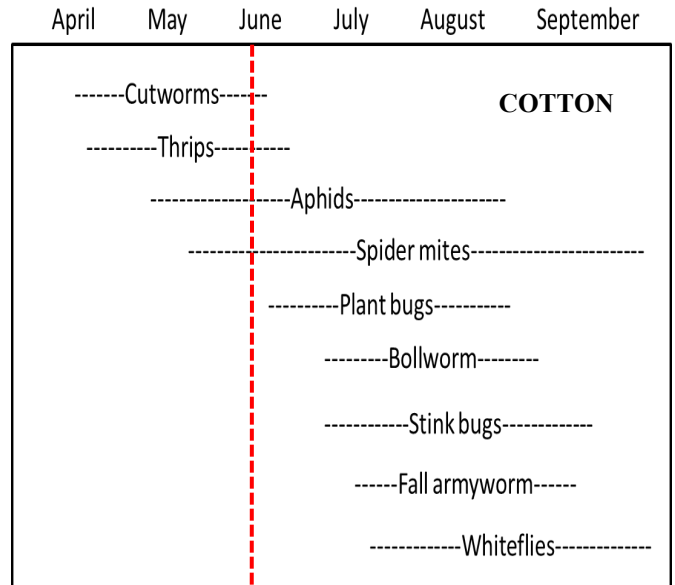
UTC



Admire Pro 9.2 fl oz/a



AgLogic 5 lb/a



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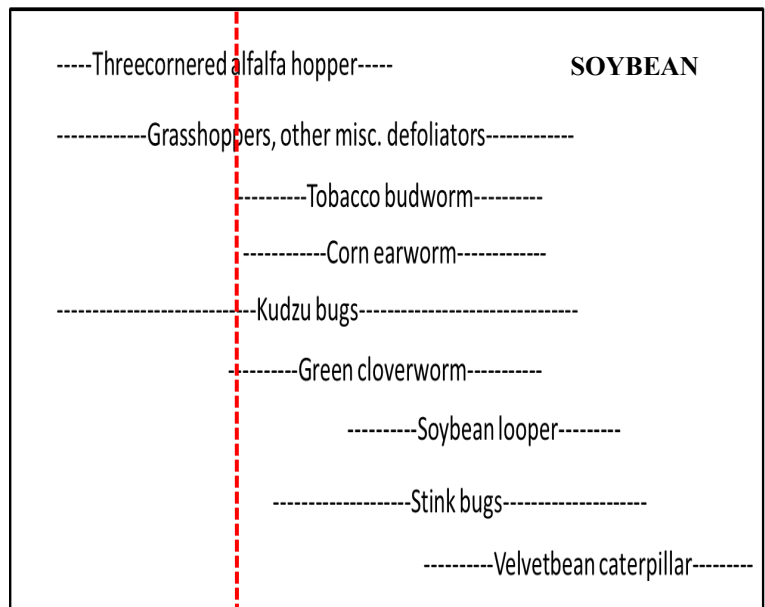
Soybean Situation

As of 6 June 2021, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 83% of the crop has been planted, compared with 73% the previous week, 53% at this time last year, and 60% for the 5-year average. About 70% of the crop has emerged, compared with 54% the previous week, 39% at this time last year, and 40% for the 5-year average. The conditions of the crop were 3% excellent, 62% good, 29% fair, 5% poor, and 1% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

Soybean Insects

The recent rain has been good, and soybeans should jump out of the ground if just planted. Established stands will not complain about the rain either. The only issues I am hearing about in soybeans continue to be grasshoppers and deer. There are some repellents that are somewhat effective on deer, but they must be reapplied frequently, and trips across the field are expensive, even if you are just trying to treat the field borders. The spray-on soap products (insecticidal soap, Hinder, etc.) were the best products in our previous testing. Aldicarb used in the furrow at planting was a very good but expensive option for repelling deer. As for grasshoppers, heavy rates of insecticides for the ones you can shoot with a shotgun are going to

April May June July August September October



FIELD KEY TO COMMON SOYBEAN CATERpillARS

		CORN EARWORM 4 + 1 pair prolegs Curls up in hand Black "warts" on body	
		VELVETBEAN CATERpillar 4 + 1 pair prolegs Very active when handled	
		SOYBEAN LOOPER 2 + 1 pair prolegs Fatter at tail end Looping movement	
		GREEN CLOVERWORM 3 + 1 pair prolegs Not fatter at tail end Looping movement	
		TOBACCO BUDWORM 4 + 1 pair prolegs Curls up in hand Black "warts" on body	

(2017) Prepared by Jeremy Greene, Professor of Entomology

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be erratic, so the best bet is to get them when they are small and young. Consider using Dimilin at 2 fl oz/acre where you have noticeable reproduction and many grasshopper nymphs (no wings) jumping around. These recent rains are probably going to "release" many young grasshoppers from egg pods in the soil.

We are also moving into the part of the season when moth activity will start to pick up, and eggs will yield caterpillar pests on soybeans. So, I will start stressing the importance of being able to identify the adults flying around in fields. Here is a chart to study, for sure!

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Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm

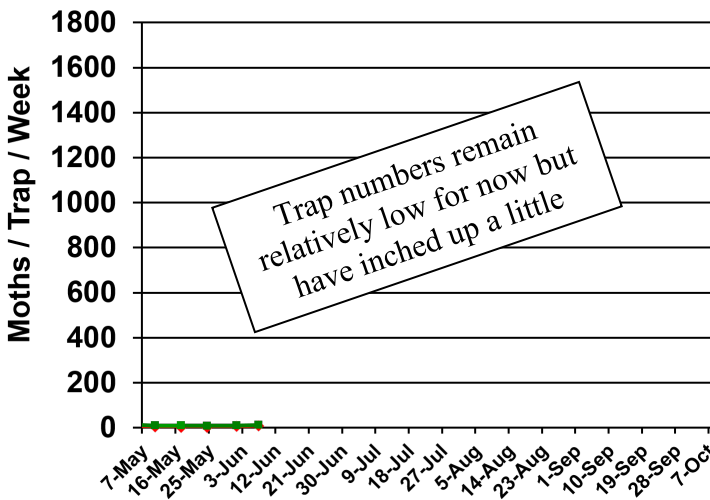


Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2007-2020 for reference. Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for any acres of non-Bt cotton. I provide these

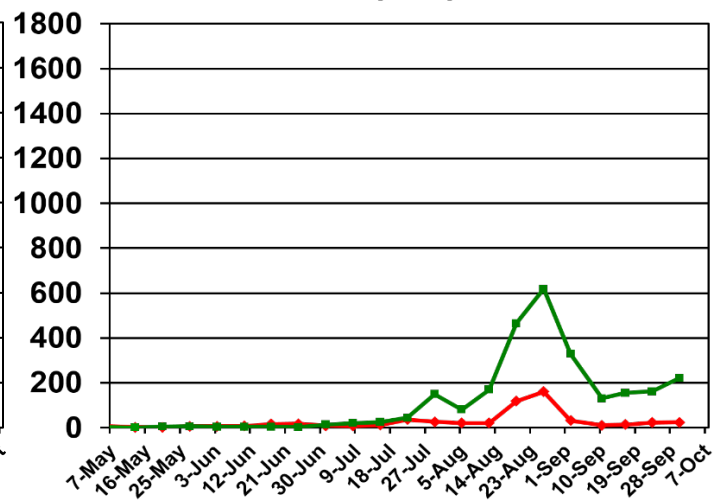
data as a measure of moth presence and activity in our local area near my research plots. The numbers are not necessarily representative of the species throughout the state.



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2021

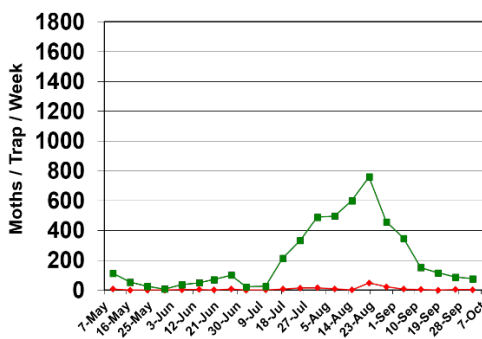


Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2020

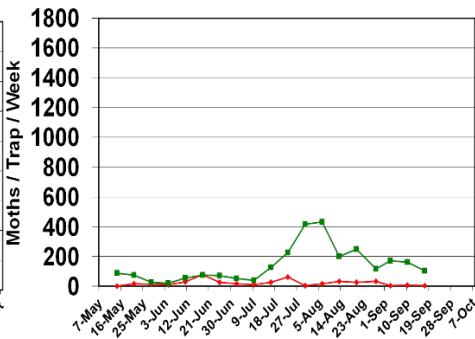


Trap data from 2007-2019 are shown below for reference to other years of trapping data from EREC:

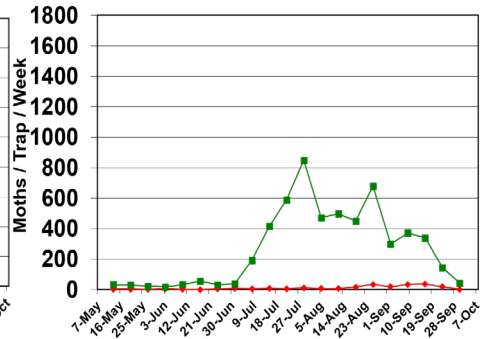
Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2007



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2008



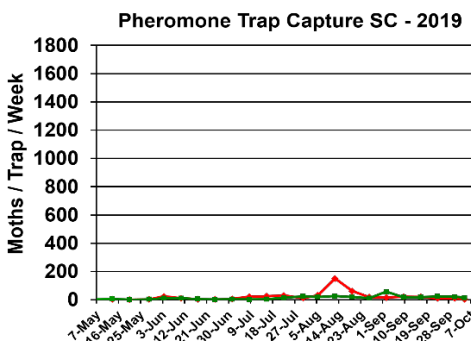
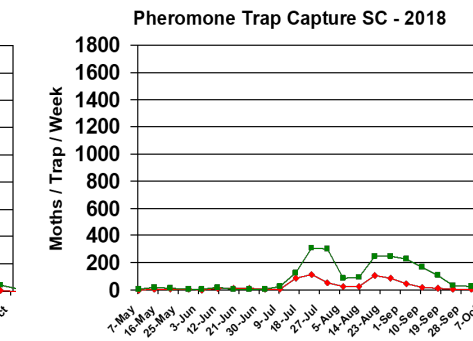
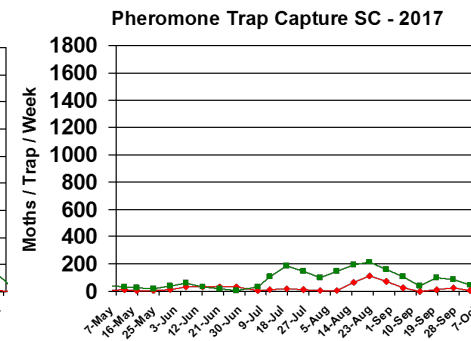
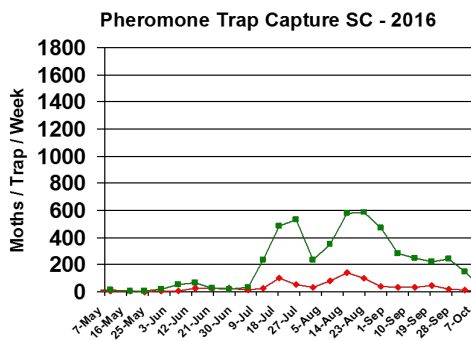
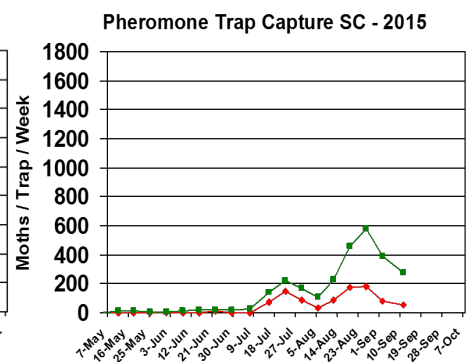
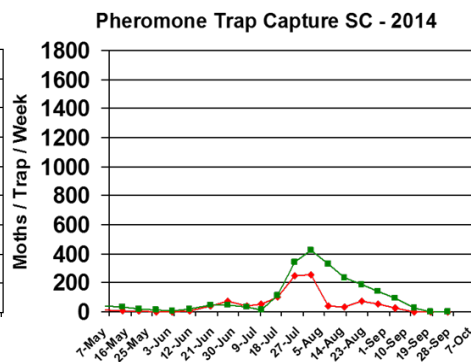
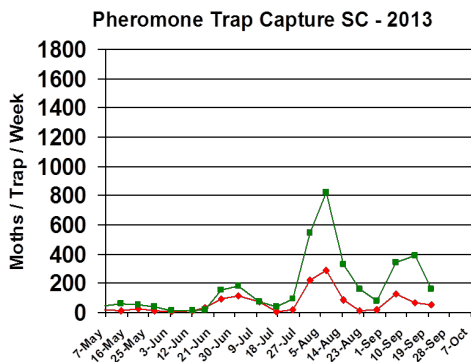
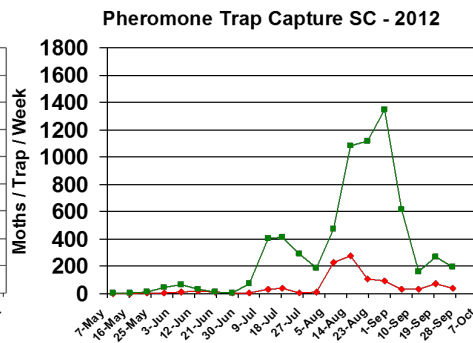
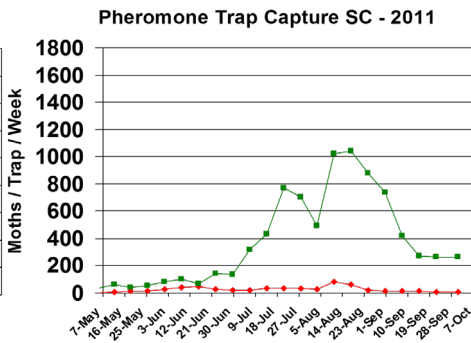
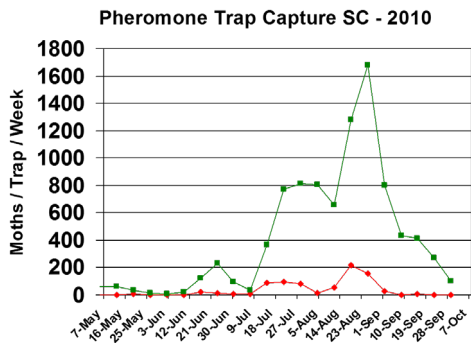
Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2009



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Pest Management Handbook – 2021

Insect control recommendations are available online in the 2021 South Carolina Pest Management Handbook at:

<https://www.clemson.edu/extension/agronomy/pest%20management%20handbook.html>

Free Mobile Apps: “Calibrate My Sprayer” and “Mix My Sprayer”



Download our free mobile apps called “Calibrate My Sprayer” and “Mix My Sprayer” that help check for proper calibration of spraying equipment and help you with mixing user-defined pesticides, respectively, in custom units (available in both iOS and Android formats):

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/mobile-apps/>

Need More Information?

For more Clemson University Extension information: <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/>

For historical cotton/soybean insect newsletters:

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/agronomy/cotton1/newsletters.html>

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.
Professor of Entomology



Visit our website at:
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