



## *Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter*

Volume 13, Issue #6

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

7 June 2018

### **Pest Patrol Alerts**

The information contained herein each week is available via text alerts that direct users to online recordings. I will update the short message weekly 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**

**Jonathan Croft**, county agent covering Orangeburg, Berkeley, and Dorchester Counties, reported “The cotton I have looked at is trying to turn around with the better cotton weather we are having. Weed control has been main focus of many farmers. Not seeing as many thrips as was earlier.” **Charles Davis**, county agent covering Calhoun and Richland Counties, reported “Looked at a lot of cotton today and all seems quiet. We seem to have weathered the thrips storm fairly well with some banged up cotton to be found but new growth looks normal. Didn’t see any insect issues other than a lot of Japanese beetles on volunteer peanuts. They were abundant but weren’t hurting the cotton. They seemed more intent on making baby beetles than eating anything. Older cotton is squaring but I didn’t see much square loss in the fields I looked at.” **David DeWitt**, county agent covering Kershaw, Lee, and Sumter Counties, reported “Things are settling here a bit as farmers try to wrap up final cotton acres. Cotton going in behind wheat as well as soybean acres being converted to cotton with 90+ cent prices. Lots of stink bugs in wheat fields being harvested after last year with some corn loss and what we think was stink bugs in soybeans. Nervous as to where these stink bugs will be moving. Corn? As some starts to tassel. After being wet, irrigation starting to run in spots last day or so.”

### **Scouting Workshops**

Your ag-focused county agents and I will be offering some in-field scouting workshops for cotton and soybean insects this summer, so stay tuned for those dates. **Tentatively**, the interactive workshops will be held on 18 July in Cameron, SC, and somewhere in the Pee Dee Region on 31 July. We might have another training in the southern portion of the state...still working on that one. The trainings will be free to attend, start in the morning, and end with lunch. Stay tuned for more information!

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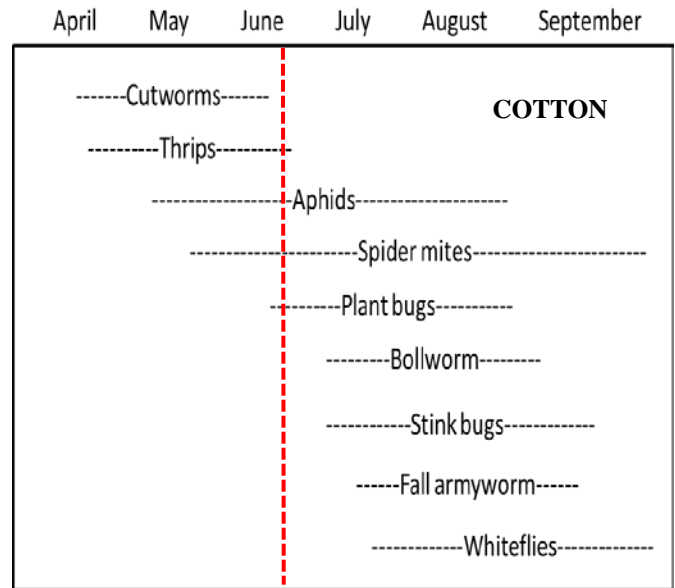


### Cotton Situation

As of 4 June 2018, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office estimated that about 85% of the crop has been planted, compared with 68% the previous week, 88% at this time last year, and 86% for the 5-year average. About 0% of the crop is squaring, compared with 0% the previous week, 1% at this time last year, and 1% for the 5-year average. The condition of the crop was described as 24% excellent, 57% good, 17% fair, 2% poor, and 0% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

### Cotton Insects

For the bulk of the crop, we are sliding out of “the thrips window” and moving into “the aphid, spider mite, and plant bug window” for the next couple of weeks. So, those arthropod pests will be of concern until we see moths and stink bugs flying around in cotton – it will not be long. We will certainly cover these pests during the next couple of weeks.



We still have some cotton being planted late, but I do not expect that cotton planted now will have much pressure from thrips. I would still recommend using something at planting for late cotton, but, according to our data, those late fields will experience reduced risks of injury from thrips. We have had light pressure from thrips this season in my research plots, but I wanted to share some photos that demonstrate what response we got from various at-plant options for thrips under low pressure.



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The AERIS seed treatment (imidacloprid + thiodicarb) looked good, but the Aldicarb looked a little better.



Thimet (phorate) looked good under light thrips pressure, but AgLogic (aldicarb) looked slightly better.



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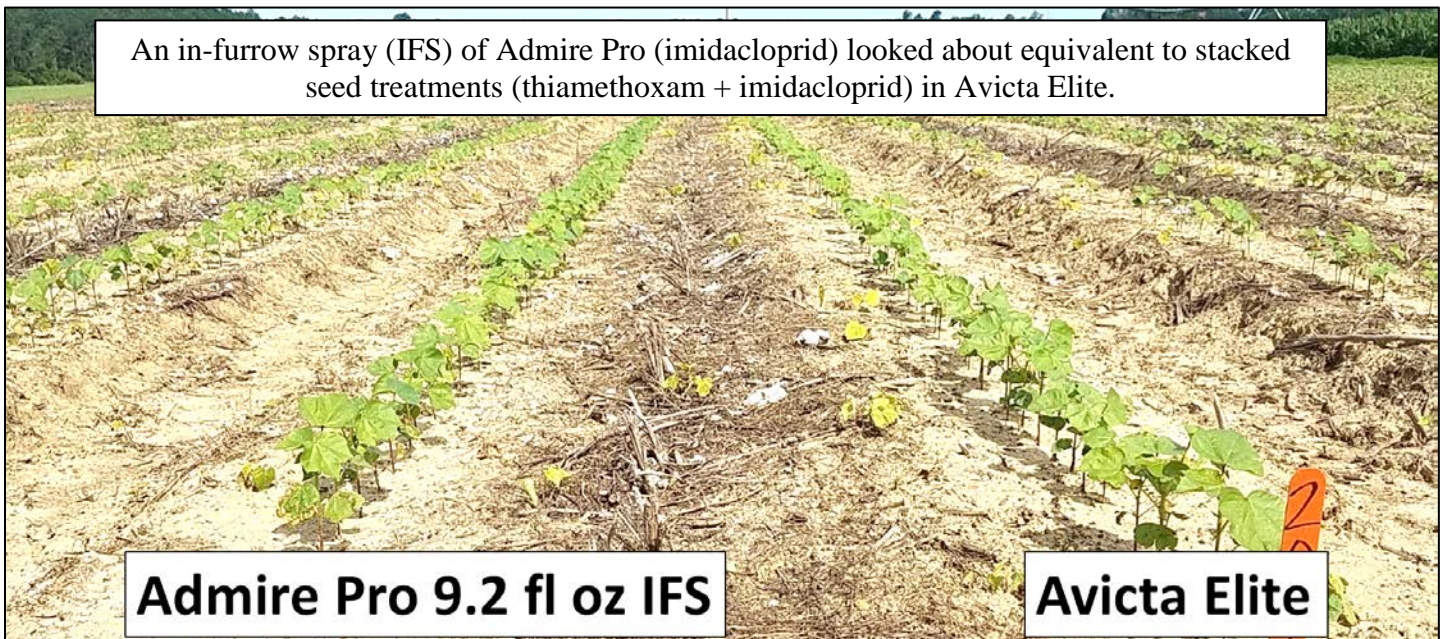
The Gaucho seed treatment (imidacloprid) looked fine, but the aldicarb looked a little better.



**Gaucho**

**AgLogic 5 lb/acre**

An in-furrow spray (IFS) of Admire Pro (imidacloprid) looked about equivalent to stacked seed treatments (thiamethoxam + imidacloprid) in Avicta Elite.



**Admire Pro 9.2 fl oz IFS**

**Avicta Elite**

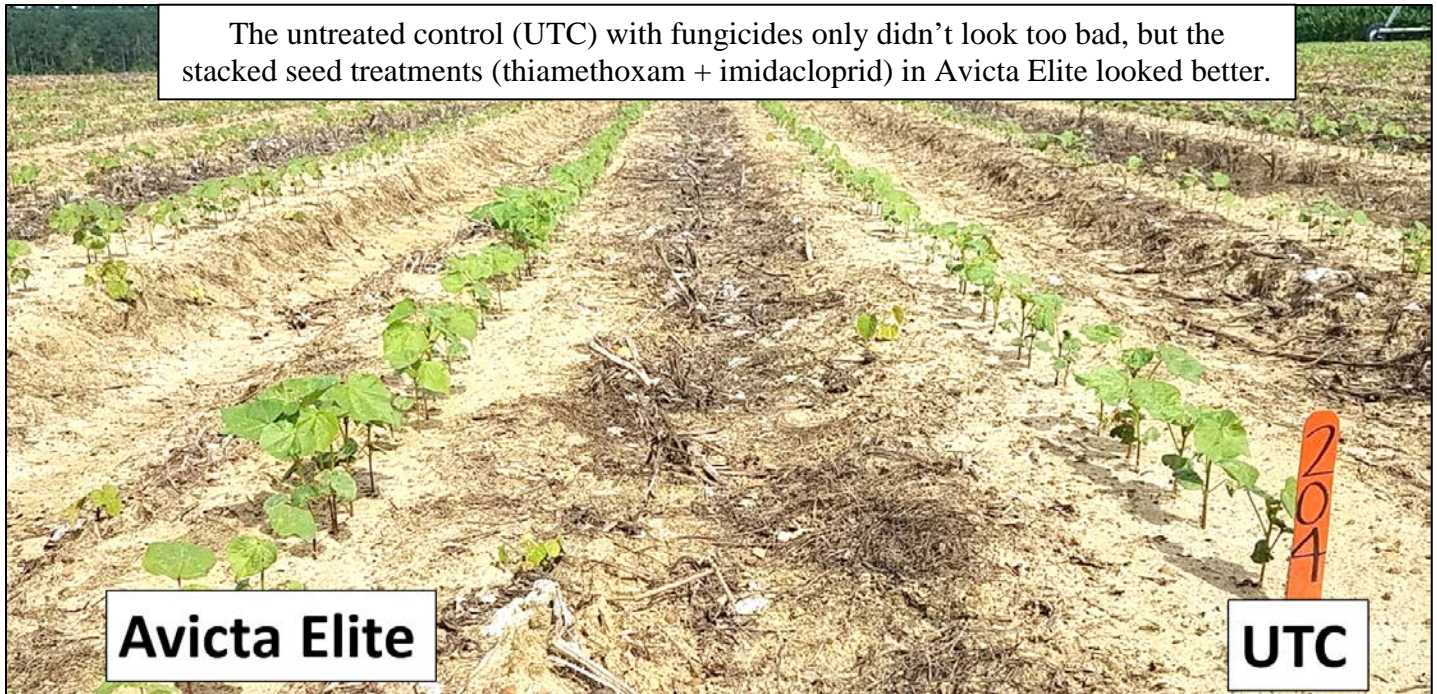
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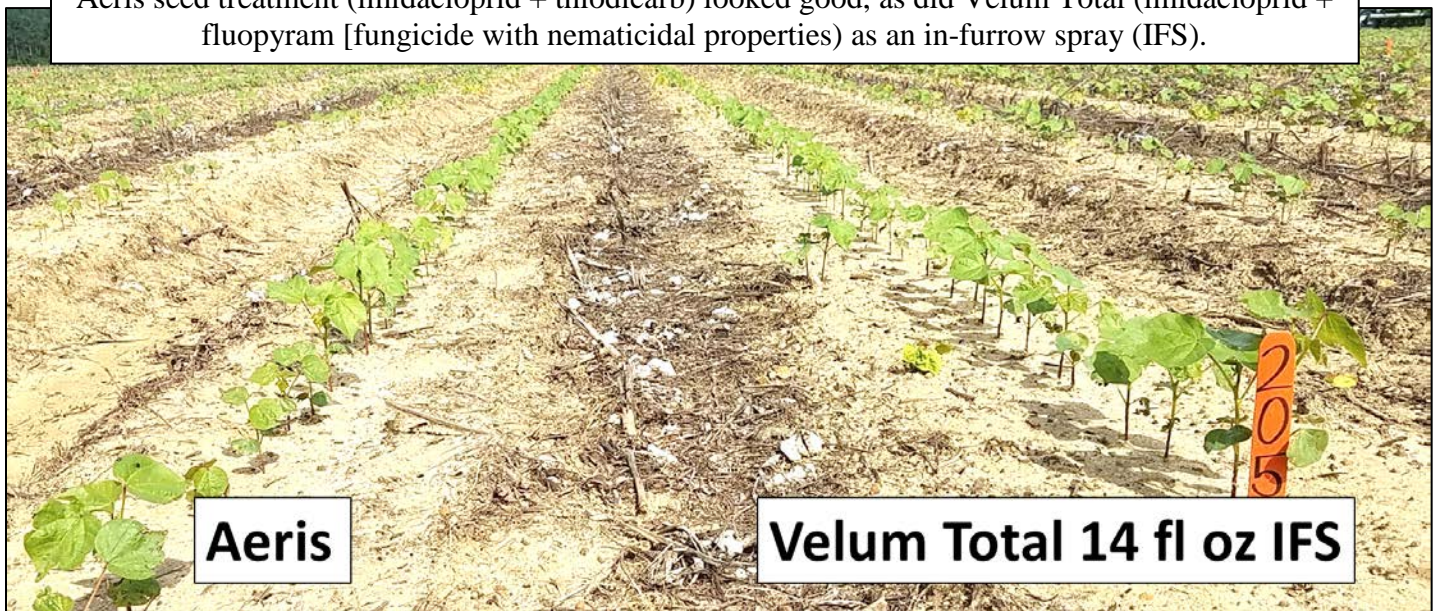
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The untreated control (UTC) with fungicides only didn't look too bad, but the stacked seed treatments (thiamethoxam + imidacloprid) in Avicta Elite looked better.



Aeris seed treatment (imidacloprid + thiodicarb) looked good, as did Velum Total (imidacloprid + fluopyram [fungicide with nematicidal properties]) as an in-furrow spray (IFS).



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Cruiser (thiamethoxam) seed treatment did not look as when it was stacked with additional seed treatments (thiamethoxam + imidacloprid + thiodicarb) in Cruiser + Aeris.



Gaucha seed treatment (imidacloprid) looked a little better than Thimet (phorate).



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## Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm

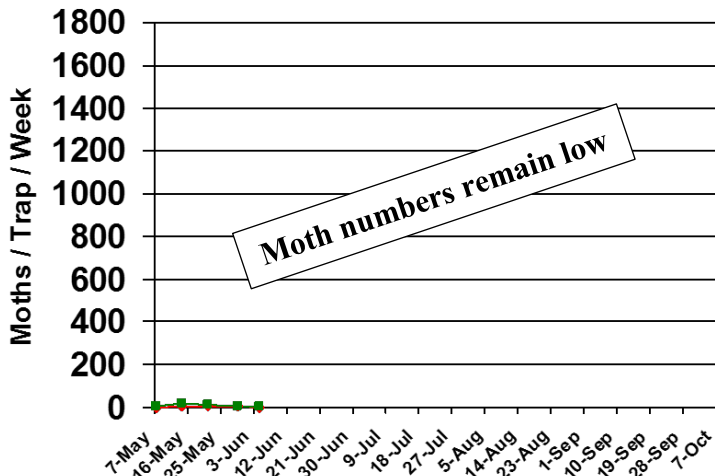


Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2017 for reference. Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for any acres of non-Bt cotton. I provide these

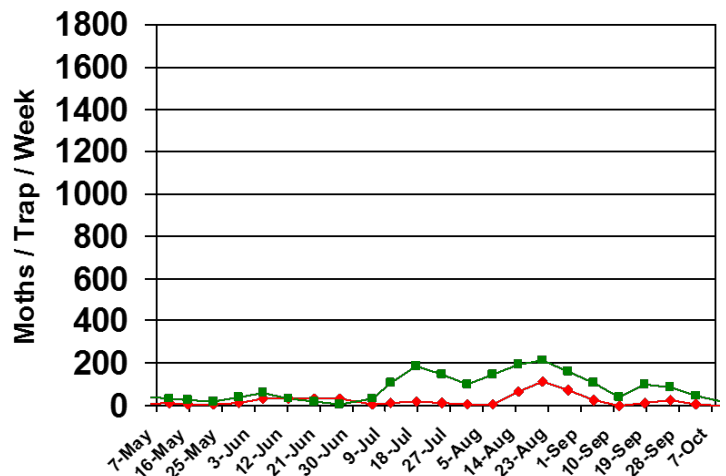
data as a measure of moth presence and activity in our local area near my research plots. The numbers are not necessarily representative of the species throughout the state.



### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2018

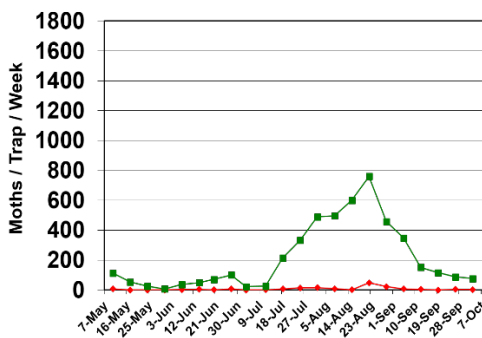


### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2017

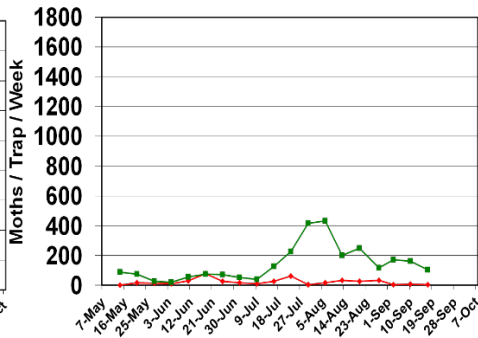


Trap data from 2007-2016 are shown below for reference to other years of trapping data from EREC:

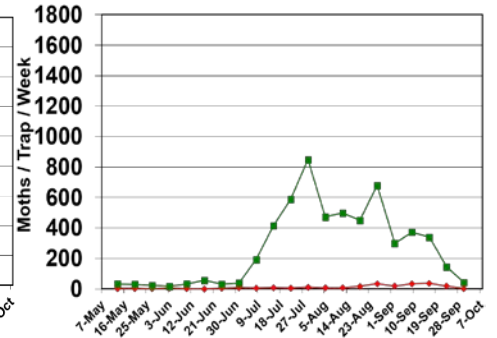
### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2007



### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2008



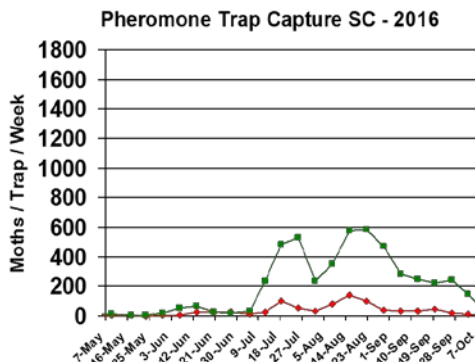
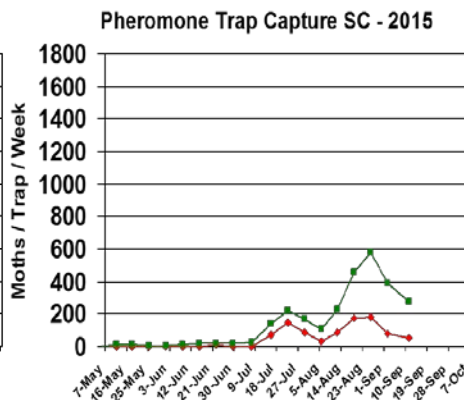
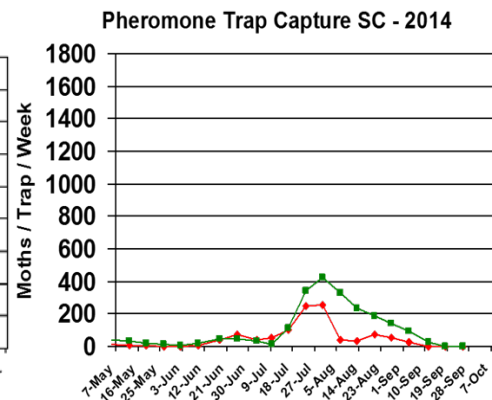
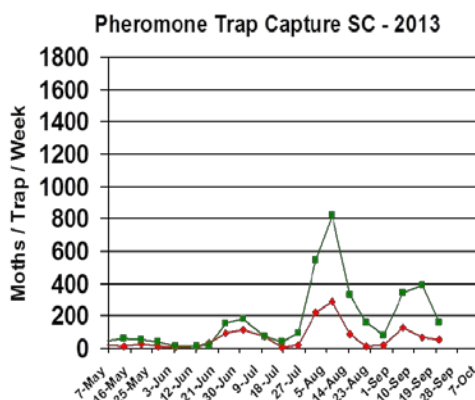
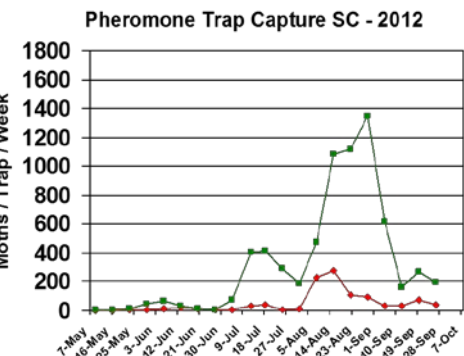
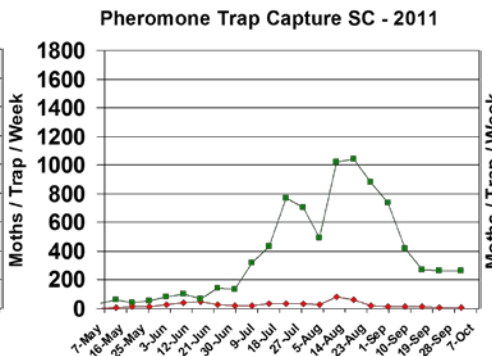
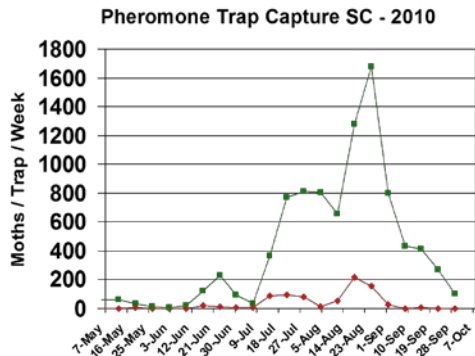
### Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2009



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## **Pest Management Handbook – 2018**

Insect control recommendations are available online in the 2018 South Carolina Pest Management Handbook at: <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/agronomy/pest%20management%20handbook.html>

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### **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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