

“WHAT’S HAPPENING?”

The University of Tennessee/Agricultural Extension Service Entomology & Plant Pathology - EPP #60

22 June 2007

SONY CAMERA PROBLEMS

by Darrell Hensley

During the past few years several county offices have purchased or obtained Sony model DSC-F717 cameras. Since the purchase of these cameras, we have received many phone calls concerning malfunctioning of the unit. After a little investigation we determined the problem to be a defective charge-coupled device (CCD). A charge-coupled device (CCD) is a sensor for recording images. It consists of an integrated circuit containing an array of linked, or coupled, capacitors. CCDs are used in digital photography and astronomy (particularly in photometry, optical and UV spectroscopy and high speed techniques such as lucky imaging). Sony has free repair for CCD problems with the model F717 camera. A lawsuit was settled Feb 06 and free repair will be made to all cameras with this CCD problem, if they are reported to Sony at the website below on or before October 2, 2007.

http://esupport.sony.com/perl/news-item.pl?template=EN&news_id=118. Hope this helps you, if your camera become defective soon.

FIELD CROP UPDATE

by Russ Patrick

Corn:

Not too many problems except lack of rain causing damage to most areas in Tennessee. Some areas have a lot of moths in the Southwestern Corn Borer Traps in Tennessee. Producers who planted Bt corn varieties should not have to worry about corn borers. I just hope we get enough rainfall to make a decent crop. So far, it does not seem possible due the high pressure keeping rain out of the area.

Wheat: There are still a number of fields that have not been harvested.. Just remember to keep your bins clean before filling them. It is the best way in addition to using the aeration fans to keep grain dry and cool. We have had plenty of night time temperatures to cool the grain. Keep it in mind when you store the crop.

Traps: Kentucky has reported numerous true armyworm moth catches in their traps. This week we had over a 100 moths in our traps. What are they going to eat. Unless we get some good moisture to green up

the pastures, there won't be much for them to use. No other moth species were found in the trapping sites.

Stored Grain Observations:

A visit to several farms yesterday in Cannon County turned up a number of pest problems found in grain bins. One bin had moldy grain from a previous season, full of rice and granary weevils. The producer was informed that this bin of 30,000 bushel capacity needed cleaning out before binning a new crop. The producer greatly appreciated this information. He will use Tempo Ultra SC to treat the empty bin. Normally they do not treat the grain and have not had many problems, as long as they aerate the grain during storage. Other bins examined had fewer insect problems this time.

Trap Catches for Southwestern Corn Borer June 15 to June 18, 2007

Lake County: 2

Weakley County: 6

Obion: 8

Haywood: 3

From the numbers we are between generations. We should have greater numbers in a couple of weeks if the weather favors development of the insect.

TOBACCO IPM REPORT

by Gene Burgess

Robertson Co.

Some plants had hornworm damage. A lot of grasshoppers were noted near the border. A little weather fleck and sunscald was observed. The test plots with Admire, Platinum and Orthene had no insect problems.

Williamson Co.

Only few plants showed any signs of drought problems. A few dead aphids and a few flea beetles were observed. There were not any insects causing problems. One plant had angular leaf spot and two plants had a virus. Overall the plants were in great shape.

Hamblen Co.

A few flea beetles were reported, but no notable damage. In fact, one field had a decrease in the number of flea beetles from the previous week. A few aphid colonies were found. And, a few Japanese beetles were found. In one field, some plants were stunted or dead, which was thought to be due to drought.

Loudon Co.

The field scouted had been sprayed with Orthene. There was no real pest problems. Only, one plant scouted had some feeding damage. One plant was reported to have a stem pathogen. A few weeds were observed.

Sevier Co.

Command had been sprayed on one field. It bleached and killed a lot of the weeds, but horse nettle was still abundant. A few lady beetles and grasshoppers were observed. However, no major problems existed. There was a lack of precipitation.

Claiborne Co.

Hail damage was reported in two fields. About 5% budworm and hornworm infestations were observed in some fields. The fields were being irrigated because of lack of rain. No foliar pesticides have been applied to the tobacco scouted to date.

CSREES CELEBRATES NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK

by Darrell Hensley

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Senate have named June 24-30, 2007, National Pollinator Week in recognition of the importance of pollinator species to agriculture, forest and grassland environments and other ecosystems.

Pollinator species, such as bees, birds and insects, are essential to produce much of our food supply; they pollinate 75 percent of all crops grown in the United States. Without pollination, most plants could not produce fruit nor set seed, and many foods we eat would no longer be available. Pollinators are worth \$20 billion annually in U.S. agricultural products and contribute to the economic well-being of agricultural producers.

Pollination also plays a vital role in the health of our national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, water, mineral resources and recreational opportunities, as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities. Additional pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary to maintain healthy, biodiverse ecosystems. Various events are scheduled nationwide. Visit the Pollinator Partnership Web site at <http://www.pollinator.org> for a listing of events in your area.

USDA is part of the Pollinator Partnership, a public-private partnership to increase pollinator awareness and promote pollinator-friendly practices. CSREES advances knowledge for agriculture, the environment, human health and well-being, and communities by supporting research, education and extension programs in the Land-Grant University System. For more information, visit <http://www.csrees.usda.gov> for more information.

US REVENUES FROM AG & HOUSEHOLD PEST CONTROL CHEMICALS

by Gene Burgess

United States Revenues in 2006 from agricultural and household pest control chemicals reached \$13.8 billion according to a new report. The gross profit on this was reported to be \$8.5 billion or 61 percent.

Total import value of such products into the U.S. in 2006 fell 10 percent (compared to 2005) with Canada, the U.K., Germany, France and China the top exporters in the country. On the other side, U.S. exports to other countries grew 19 percent over 2005 values, with Canada, Brazil, Mexico, China and France the top recipients (*Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News*, 4/23/07).

VENEZUELA PROHIBITS GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS

by Gene Burgess

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez Frias has announced that the cultivation of genetically modified crops will be prohibited on Venezuelan soil, possibly establishing the most sweeping restrictions on transgenic crops in the western hemisphere. Though full details of the administration's policy on genetically modified organisms are still forthcoming, the statement by President Hugo Chavez will lead most immediately to the cancellation of a contract that Venezuela had negotiated with the US-based Monsanto Company. Before a recent international gathering of supporters in Caracas, Chavez admonished genetically engineered crops as contrary to interest and needs of the nation's farmers and farmworkers. (*Reuters*, 4/29/07)

GUTHION

by Gene Burgess

Makteshim Agan Industries, Inc., Israel, has acquired the Guthion brand insecticide from Germany-based Bayer Crop Science Ag. Raleigh, NC-based Makteshim Agan Industries of North America received the product line of Guthion Solupak in the U.S. and Canada. The insecticide is still labeled for apple, pear, cherry, blueberry, almond, pistachio, walnut and parsley (*Citrus&Vegetable Magazine*, April 2007)

A FUNGUS BECOMES A NEW BIOLOGICAL CONTROL AGENT

by Gene Burgess

An unusually durable fungus that was first spotted on tiny insects feeding on eggplants in Texas may become a new biological control for the widespread and costly whitefly. The fungus was first isolated by USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) entomologists at the ARS Beneficial Insects Research Unit, Weslaco, Texas. The new fungal species has been named *Isaria propawskii*. In the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, it has been shown to kill both larval and adult stages of silverleaf whitefly. Also, it has a high pathogenic potential against a second major insect pest - the glassy-winged sharpshooter, *Homalodisca vitripennis*.

OTHER UT NEWSLETTERS WITH PEST MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Fruit Pest News

<http://web.utk.edu/~extepp/fpn/fpn.htm>

Tennessee Crop and Pest Management Newsletter

http://www.utextension.utk.edu/fieldCrops/cotton/cotton_insects/ipmnewsletters.htm

This and other "What's Happening" issues can be found at

<http://eppserver.ag.utk.edu/Whats/whatshap.htm>

Precautionary Statement

To protect people and the environment, pesticides should be used safely. This is everyone's responsibility, especially the user. Read and follow label directions carefully before you buy, mix, apply, store or dispose of a pesticide. According to laws regulating pesticides, they must be used only as directed by the label.

Disclaimer

This publication contains pesticide recommendations that are subject to change at any time. The recommendations in this publication are provided only as a guide. It is always the pesticide applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide being used. The label always takes precedence over the recommendations found in this publication.

Use of trade or brand names in this publication is for clarity and information; it does not imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others that may be of similar, suitable composition, nor does it guarantee or warrant the standard of the product. The author(s), the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and University of Tennessee Extension assume no liability resulting from the use of these recommendations.

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[Tennessee Crop and Pest Management Newsletter](http://www.utextension.utk.edu/fieldCrops/cotton/cotton_insects/ipmnewsletters.htm)

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