

Virginia Cooperative Extension

Knowledge for the Commonwealth



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Virginia AG Pest Advisory



Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station

Latest News

- Apr-23-2008 ***Brown Stink Bugs in Wheat***
 Small
 Grains
 (Insect)
 From Ames
 Herbert
- Several calls have come in regarding brown stink bugs showing up in wheat fields. We know that browns overwinter as adults and migrate into small grain fields in April where they complete a generation (adults-to eggs-to nymphs-to adults). This occurs over the next month with the new adults occurring in late May and June, which migrate from small grains as they dry down in June into adjacent fields, especially corn. It is not unusual to see browns in wheat fields this time of year, but we are getting more calls than normal. Most likely those calls will keep coming in as more fields are scouted, and we will see larger numbers as we move into May and June. Although adults and nymphs must be feeding on the grain, there is no data, yet, indicating any cause for alarm. Dr. John Van Duyn at NC State and his PhD student, Eric Blinka, initiated a study last year where they caged 0, 2, 4, or 6 brown stink bug adults on 20 wheat plants, beginning at either the early milk or early dough stage. At harvest, they measured seed number, seed weight and weight/200 seed. There were no differences among the treatments, that is, the bugs did not reduce any of the factors measured compared to cages with no bugs (the data table is attached, hit the more button below). The study is being repeated this spring but for now, based on these results, we do not recommend treating small grains for brown stink bug. The only risk might be to any corn fields directly adjacent to small grain fields with very high numbers, as those adults will migrate into corn and can do serious damage to corn seedlings. In those cases, treatments may be warranted. [[More](#)]
- Apr-21-2008 ***2008 Virginia Peanut Production Guide available online***
 Peanut
 (Other)
 From Sean
 Malone
- The 2008 Virginia Peanut Production Guide (Virginia Cooperative Extension Publication 432-101-08) is now available at:
<http://www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/cotton/432-101-08/432-101-08.html>
- Apr-21-2008 ***2008 Virginia Cotton Production Guide available online***
 Cotton
 (Other)
 From Sean
- The 2008 Virginia Cotton Production Guide (Virginia Cooperative Extension Publication 424-300-08) is now available at:

Malone <http://www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/cotton/424-300-08/424-300-08.html>

Apr-17-2008 ***Early season sampling for overwintering thrips populations on the Eastern Shore***
 Fruits and Vegetables (General) (Insect)
 From Tom Kuhar

As many of you know, last year was a monster year for thrips pest pressure on crops in Eastern Virginia. Populations of most pest thrips were high and in addition we had the new-arrival Western flower thrips invade our crops and cause tremendous dollar losses especially to our tomato growers. A huge question for 2008 has been whether or not we will see Western flower thrips again. Because of this, we began sampling for thrips populations on overwintering flowering weeds on 12 Mar and this has been ongoing on a weekly basis. We have been sampling several locations in Northampton and Accomack county. We basically have been collecting about a gallon-size ziplock bag of flowering weeds, primarily mustards, but also henbit, chickweed, and a few others. We wash the plants and vacuum filtrate to retrieve the thrips. To date, the number of thrips has been relatively low except for the presence of 19 thrips larvae and a few adults in the town of Birdsnest (East Coast Tomato Farm on Route 13). The species found are primarily Eastern flower thrips and tobacco thrips, and western flower thrips has not been found yet. Thrips densities should be picking up in the coming weeks and we will keep you posted on the results of our surveys. In May, we will also begin an early-season warning monitoring for tomato-spotted wilt virus using petunia indicator plants and thrips monitoring devices. These will be placed around several tomato farms on the Eastern Shore. We are working with AgriTechnologies on this latter project. In addition Drs. Ames Herbert and Sean Malone from Tidewater AREC and Dr. Pete Schultz from Virginia Beach will also be placing these plants around their respective regions in Virginia. These results will be posted on this VA Ag Pest Advisory. Best Regards, Tom Kuhar and Helene Doughty

To see archived news, select below:

Select Commodity ▼	Select Pest Group ▼	Last Week ▼	See More News
--------------------	---------------------	-------------	---------------

Other Pest News

[Virginia Cooperative Extension](#)
[Delaware IPM Homepage](#)
[University of Maryland Pest Net](#)
[Virginia Fruit Page](#)
[NCSU IPM](#)
[Southern Region IPM Center](#)

Total Page Hits = 13,704 (Apr-25-2008)