

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

CROP ALERT

July 13, 2018

Mike Stanyard & Jodi Letham, Regional Agronomists, Cornell Cooperative Extension

Western Bean Cutworm Scouting

We have been catching low numbers of WBC in our pheromone traps. Traditional peak flights occur around August 1st. We are only catching males in the traps and it is only an indication of their presence. There's a lot of 7ft corn out there that has already tasseled so now is a good time to scout for WBC egg masses because the females prefer to lay their eggs on pre-tassel to tasseled corn on the top couple of leaves. Egg masses will be white (newly oviposited) to purple (ready to hatch). Threshold is 5% or greater of the plants with egg masses. Start scouting!

Start Looking for Armyworms

Well, our question of "should we be concerned with armyworm" has been answered, yes! After sweeping several grass/alfalfa mixed fields, I found several armyworm larvae ranging from 1/4 to 1/2". Where I was finding the larger larvae moderate damage had occurred. These pests can quickly move from one feeding ground to another overnight and we are finding that we may have to manage a 2nd generation infestation. Be on the lookout!



Photo source: PSU Marlin E. Rice



Photo source: DuPont Pioneer

Soybean Aphids are Here

We had our first report of soybean aphids last week. Some fields have already been sprayed and others are asking "should these fields be sprayed". Most fields I have scouted were at V3-V5. Soybeans are looking a little stressed from the heat and lack of moisture in some areas. If your SBA numbers are increasing per plant (threshold 250/plant), treatment would be warranted. I have also seen a lot of ladybird adults and larvae in some fields and none in others.

Spider Mites are Here

Along with SBA, I have also been getting calls on spider mites. Many of these have been in areas that have not been getting the rain and are showing drought stress. There is no established threshold for spider mites in beans (like aphids). A typical textbook definition would say "control may be warranted when infested plants have substantial spotting or leaf yellowing and live mites, but before mites cause browning and leaf drop." Typically soybeans can deal with a small mite population but when you throw in drought stress it is a different ball game. If the plants are starting to flip to conserve moisture, you have yellowing leaves, and mites are present, it's time to spray in my opinion. Even more so if you have soybean aphids present as well. A Pyrethroid + Chlorpyrifos would be effective.



Photo source: Purdue

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Pea Aphid / Potato Leafhopper for 3rd Cut Regrowth

Pea aphids continue to be found in high numbers when sweeping alfalfa. In most cases they are not of economic concern unless the alfalfa plant is stressed with additional insect injury, drought or compaction. We have been seeing thresholds as high as one cup per 10 sweeps! Pea aphids are slow and pear-shaped, very green colored with long black legs. This is in comparison to the quick wedged-shape PLH whose legs are tucked in under its body with a lime green color.

We have been finding below threshold numbers of Potato Leafhoppers (PLH) adults this last week across NWNY region. Third cut regrowth and new seedlings can be vulnerable with pea aphids present and drought conditions. PLH feed by piercing and sucking the plant sap from the plant. If you are seeing hopper burn (yellow leaves) and stunting it would indicate we missed our opportunity for timely management.




Photo source: Madeline Kinnear & Jodi Letham

The Grain Gurus Twilight Tour

It's All About the New York State of Grain! Meet the Cornell scientists on the forefront of elevating NYS malting grains and learn about the first-ever Cornell University - bred malting barley varieties. Tour a modern malthouse at New York Craft Malt. Enjoy a local craft beer and dinner at Eli Fish Brewing Company, Batavia's first brewery in 100 years! Questions??? 585-813-8399, to register: https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events.cfm

The Grain Gurus Twilight Tour
July 18, 2018 6:00 p.m.



It's All About the New York State of Grain!
Meet the Cornell scientists on the forefront of elevating NYS malting grains and learn about the first-ever Cornell University bred malting barley varieties.
Tour a modern malthouse at New York Craft Malt.
Enjoy a local craft beer and dinner at Eli Fish Brewing Co., Batavia's first brewery in 100 years!

6:00 p.m. Meet at the Malting Outreach "Maltby Trail" Speaker: Dr. Gar J. Bergshoeff, Professor of Plant Pathology, Cornell CALS Topic: Field Notes from the Batavia "Maltby Trail" 1000 East St. Rd. S.F., Batavia, NY 14020 (No Charge)	7:00 p.m. Continue to New York Craft Malt for a tour including malting and roasting facilities. Learn about the process for flavor and color of malt. Tours available on the beer made with New York Craft Malt. Speaker: New Jersey, Chester New York, Chester Topic: From Oats to Glass: The Challenge and Triumph of Malting Oats for Award Winning Beer 1000 East St. Rd. S.F., Batavia, NY 14020 (No Charge)	7:45 p.m. Continue to Eli Fish Brewing Co. for a tour of their new brewery. All participants receive one free drink for the beverage of their choice. Enjoy dinner from their full menu (optional). Speaker: John Meyer, Head Brewer Eli Fish Brewing Co. Topic: Local Oatmeal supporting the craft and the community 100 - 111 Main St., Batavia, NY 14020 **Participants responsible for cost of dinner
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To register visit: https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/twilighttour/2018_10018 or call 585-813-8399
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