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CAMDEN CROP NEWS

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Camden Blacklight Trap

The blacklight insect trap has been re-deployed to monitor pests. The trap is located behind the Camden Extension Office. This tool has been helpful to record corn earworm moth flight activity. As moth catches increase in this local trap, the likelihood of moths flying into and laying eggs in your soybean fields increases as well. This record can assist by alerting growers of when increasing the frequency and intensity of scouting efforts may prove beneficial. Trap data will be published every Monday on the Camden Extension Center website: camden.ces.ncsu.edu, under the Camden Crop Data tab on the left side of the page (direct link:<https://camden.ces.ncsu.edu/camden-crop-data/>) Furthermore data from traps across the state will be reported here: (<https://www.ces.ncsu.edu/trap-data/>).

Managing Weeds in Light of the Current Dicamba Ruling

Excerpt from an article wrote by our NC State Extension Weed Specialists Dr. Wes Everman, and Dr. Charlie Cahoon. Full article accessed at: go.ncsu.edu/readext?699953

Hopefully you had the opportunity to purchase your dicamba products prior to reading this. If not, you may be wondering, “what can I spray on my dicamba soybeans or cotton to control my Palmer amaranth, common ragweed, or other troublesome weeds?”. In most areas, we can still control glyphosate-resistant weeds with conventional herbicides in soybean, however there are some areas of the state with both ALS- and PPO-resistance. If you are in an area with confirmed or suspected resistance to ALS- and PPO-inhibitors and you do not have approved dicamba products prior to planting Xtend soybeans, you may want to consider switching varieties to those containing Enlist or Liberty Link traits. If you have planted Xtend soybeans or cotton, your options follow.

First, a reminder and a call to reason. Only dicamba formulated as Xtendimax, Engenia, Fexapan, or Tavium may be applied over the top of Xtend soybeans and cotton. You can do so until July 31st if you currently have the product. Now, if you do not currently have approved dicamba products, don’t panic and for God’s sake, **DO NOT APPLY ANY OTHER FORMULATION!** We have options, and using products off label will only increase the chance for off target issues and shine a negative light on us.

Soybean Weed Management without Dicamba:

Now about controlling those weeds if you planted Xtend soybeans, but do not have dicamba. Xtend soybeans are tolerant to glyphosate and dicamba. We can still effectively use glyphosate to control grasses, sicklepod, sedges, and cocklebur – to name a few of our challenging weeds. To control glyphosate-resistant species such as Palmer amaranth and common ragweed, use the following approaches:

Palmer amaranth: start with a strong residual program with Group 14 (PPO-inhibitors) and Group 15 (chloroacetamides) herbicides. This should be common practice by now for all soybeans, but will be critical to stay ahead of Palmer amaranth. Metribuzin (Group 5) is also an option PRE, but follow precautionary guidelines to avoid soybean injury. Most Palmer amaranth is resistant to ALS-inhibitors across the state, so we will have to rely on PPO-inhibitors such as Cobra, Flexstar, Reflex, Resource, or Ultra Blazer for POST control before they reach 4 inches in height. Add in an overlapping residual product (Group 15) to control subsequent flushes. Be prepared to follow a up with a second POST if needed.

Common ragweed: there are pockets of common ragweed in the North Carolina resistant to ALS-inhibitors, and a small pocket in the Northeast resistant to PPO-inhibitors that need special attention. Outside these areas we can use a Valor or Sharpen based herbicide (PPO-inhibitor) or metribuzin (Group 5) PRE to start clean. Once soybean have emerged, use herbicides in Group 2 (ALS-inhibitors) and Group 14 (PPO-inhibitors) to control emerged common ragweed. Effective Group 2 herbicides include Classic, FirstRate, and Synchrony. Most PPO-inhibitors provide Good to Excellent control of common ragweed. Alternate modes of action if multiple POST applications are made during the season.

In summary, we have options. If you have not planted, make sure you have the herbicides needed for the season, consider your known weed challenges, and consider changing traits where necessary. If you have planted, purchase alternative herbicides early in case others are in the same situation. If you run into issues or have questions, reach out to your County Extension agent.

New Thresholds for Stink Bugs in Corn

The thresholds for stink bugs in corn have been updated, please find the new thresholds in the table below.

Growth stage	Area to sample	Do not treat	Take more samples	Treat
V1 to V6	Base of plant on stalk below lowest green leaf	≤6	>7 to 12	≥13
V14 to VT	Stalk from first leaf above and below primary ear	≤4	>5 to 9	≥10
R1 to R2	Stalk at one leaf above and two leaves below primary ear	≤14	>15 to 27	≥28

Dr. Dominic Reising, NC State Extension Entomologist, recently wrote an articles on the subject, which can be found below.

Important Changes for Stink Bug Thresholds in Corn for 2020: The threshold for stink bugs in corn is changing based on recent research conducted in both North Carolina and Virginia. These studies indicated that, while seedling thresholds were effective, there was evidence that the pre-tasseling and early reproductive stages threshold should be lowered. We also shortened the period that stink bugs needed to be controlled from R4 to R2, since there is no evidence that brown stink bugs can cause economic yield loss (except, perhaps at very high levels) past R2. New thresholds are listed on our website. A major concern in lowering these thresholds is that more unnecessary spraying will take place. Unfortunately, most stink bug sprays are made without proper scouting, often applied too late to reduce economic injury (typically tank mixed with a fungicide at tasseling), and without adequate coverage near the ear zone. These unneeded or poorly targeted sprays are wasted money to the grower and could create resistance issues in the future. Stink bugs tend to infest field edges, so it's easy to get excited if scouting is done with a quick trip out of and back into the pickup cab. We still anticipate that, even with these threshold modifications, most corn fields will not exceed the economic threshold if they are properly scouted. Refer to the information on our website for our scouting recommendations. Bifenthrin is the most effective registered insecticide. Using off-label insecticides on corn is unneeded and illegal. Read more at:go.ncsu.edu/readext?695203

Sincerely,

Austin Brown
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Camden County