Cotton Thrips

As sometimes happens, the general appearance of our cotton crop seems to have actually worsened this past week, perhaps a combination of our cool night time lows, the rough start and heavy thrips pressure. I had thought by this time, cotton would have taken a strong turn for the better.

With our cool nights, cotton may take as long as 5 or 6 days, or more, to show visibly improved growth due to thrips control. Some poor looking cotton revealed immature thrips levels of less than one per plant. In other cases, we have found 2 to 4 immature thrips per plant just 4 or 5 days after being treated with a moderate to high rate of Orthene (0.37 to 0.5 to ounces per acre following either a seed treatment or Temik). Control difficulties such as this are sometimes associated with western flower thrips, a more difficult to control species. However, an early inspection of a small sample revealed mostly easier to control tobacco thrips.

Be sure to inspect cotton seedlings for immature thrips with a hand lens or beat seedlings onto a flat white object to determine whether the thrips are present at high enough levels to justify treatment. An average of 1 immature thrips per plant per true leaf present is a good point of reference.

For cotton replanted from this time on, a seed treatment alone or Temik 15G at the lower 3 pound rate should not require a foliar insecticide treatment for thrips. Don't leave out this protection, however, as late May planted cotton at our latitude should not be exposed to stresses that might cause additional delays.

From: Jack S. Bacheler, Extension Entomologist
**Soybean**

**New Potential Soybean Market**

Ever-Fresh, the Korean company that was introduced at the 2006 Joint Conference, is planning to build a facility in Columbus Co. The facility will be set up to (but not be limited to) clean, size sort, color sort as needed, grind splits etc. into grits and flour, bag and export products for both human and animal consumption. They will even bag the trash and use it for animal feed (i.e. No waste except for dirt).

Contracts will be initiated thru Grain Growers Co-Op for acres- not bushels. We all know what weather can do to yields. The grain payments will be made By Ever-Fresh and not the Co-Op.

Premiums above CBOT will be based on several factors listed below. This list might not be all inclusive and details definitely are not complete.

1) Non GMO varieties (however there will be GMO varieties purchased also)
2) Type of bean grown (i.e. large vs. small vs. specialty)
3) Distance from processing facility to adjust for freight
4) Availability of on-farm storage

Interested growers should contact:
Sam Brake
Grain Growers Cooperative
(252) 234-2856 office
(252) 245-2667 cell

**Peanut**

**Peanut Disease Advisories**

For those who attended the Annual Peanut Production meeting we heard about the peanut advisory that Dr. Shew has formatted. The disease advisories will be for Leaf Spot and Sclerotinia (sclerotinia will not be as often as Leaf Spot until later in the growing season) This year the advisories will be made available for any producers that would like to obtain the information.

The advisory forecast does not have a station directly for Bladen County due to insufficient weather data from the airport. The closest weather stations are located in Columbus and Sampson Counties, so these will be the advisories that we will receive.

The advisories will be available in three ways:
1) They will be posted on Bladen County Extension website. [http://bladen.ces.ncsu.edu/](http://bladen.ces.ncsu.edu/)
2) Available through email sent to the producer.
3) Available over the telephone set up as a recorded message.

On the next page is a form for you to fill out on how you would like to receive the Peanut Disease Advisories. Please return to the Extension office when you finish with them. A letter will be sent out later finalizing the telephone number for the producers wanting to call in to receive the advisory.
North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability. In addition, the two Universities welcome all persons without regard to sexual orientation. NC State University, NC A&T State University, US Department of Agriculture and local governments cooperating.

Sincerely,

Ryan Harrelson
Agriculture Extension Agent
Field Crops

Peanut Disease Advisory Method

☐ Receive Advisories by e-mail.
   Email address to be sent to: ________________________________

☐ Receive Advisories by calling in by telephone.

Return to: Ryan Harrelson
P.O. Box 249
Elizabethtown, NC 28337