

Mississippi Crop Situation

July 25, 2008

Mississippi State University Extension Service

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This Weeks Planting Report

National Agriculture Statistics Services (Mississippi) Crop Progress for Week Ending 7/20/08

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5- Year Average
Corn Dough	88	73	94	88
Cotton Squaring	97	93	99	97
Cotton Setting Bolls	61	38	70	72
Peanuts Pegging	91	60	79	33
Rice Headed	24	10	29	36
Sorghum Heading	83	75	94	92
Sorghum Coloring	29	10	14	31
Soybeans Planted	100	99	100	100
Soybeans Blooming	93	92	98	95
Soybeans Setting Pods	71	62	76	81
Soybeans Turning Color	0	0	3	4
Sweet Potatoes Planted	98	96	100	99

Soybean Insects

Angus Catchot

Armyworms: There have been a quite a few calls this week of fall armyworms in wheat beans. I have also heard similar reports from other mid-south states this week. Every call has been following a Roundup application where the grass was taken out by the herbicide. This is the rice (grass) strain of fall armyworms that we see in pastures every year. Ordinarily, they will not initially infest broadleaf plants but when you remove the grass that they are feeding on they will turn to the soybeans and even cotton in the absence of a grass food source. Fortunately, the rice strain of the fall armyworm is much easier to control than the corn strain that we commonly see in cotton. The important thing is to be scouting these fields closely and identify the problem before defoliation gets out of hand. Defoliation thresholds in Mississippi are 35 % prior to bloom and 20% after bloom. When dealing with defoliating caterpillar pests, thresholds are 4 worms per 1ft of row half inch or greater in size. Sweep net thresholds would be similar to other caterpillar pest but caution should be taken when using sweep nets or drop cloths since many of the worms may still be at the ground level on the dying grass until it completely browns out. Also, keep in mind that caterpillar pests will consume 90% of their total food intake in the last few days of their life so defoliation levels can increase significantly in a short period of time if the worms are in the later instars. Ryan Jackson with USDA-ARS in Stoneville visited one of the fields earlier in the week and also observed them feeding on blooms and small pods. The photo below was taken by one of our consultants in Mississippi on Monday of this week. This was in 25 sweeps.



Armyworms in Soybeans

Bean Leaf Beetle: There have been numerous calls over the last week on bean leaf beetles escaping pyrethroid applications. We are putting a test out in the delta today and trying to get a couple more out next week. At this time our position has not changed and we are relying on last years testing of resistant populations in the delta. Pyrethroids will only provide marginal control in most areas of the delta and likely unacceptable control if the population has already been exposed to a pyrethroid application. Sevin and Larvin have provided the most consistent control to date and the premix products such as Endigo and Leverage have appeared to provide acceptable control as well. We will keep you informed of the results as we get them.

Dr. Gordon Andrews

The following tables contain data collected from three tests that are being conducted in the Mississippi delta this growing season. The objectives of these tests are to look at insect populations and soybean yields produced by two soybean insect management strategies on large (40-50 acre) fields. Strategy/treatment 1 requires no insecticide treatment until published thresholds are sampled from the fields except for three cornered alfalfa hoppers, which will be treated at a lower threshold of 40 adults or 2 nymphs per 100 sweeps. Strategy/treatment 2 requires an application of insecticide at the R-3 stage of development and the use of published insect treatment thresholds for the remainder of the season. Test 1 is near Lake Washington in Washington County, test 2 is near Cruger in Holmes County, and test 3 is near Gunnison in Bolivar County.

Test 1

Date	Growth Stage	GSB ³		BSB ⁴		3CAHA ⁵		3CAHI ⁶		LFB ⁷		GH ⁸		LFC ⁹	
		T1 ¹	T2 ²	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2
6/10/2008	R-2	0	7	1	1	0	5	0	0	4	2	0	3	4	4
6/17/2008	R-3	0	4	2	2	1	2	0	0	8	8	1	4	3	3
Insecticide application on 6/17/2008 of 1pound AI Orthene/acre to treatment 2 (after sample)															
6/24/2008	R-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	17	6	3	0	2	0
7/1/2008	R-4	0	0	0	0	9	5	0	0	20	19	3	0	1	0
7/8/2008	R-5	0	0	1	0	25	17	0	0	16	6	5	2	3	0
7/15/2008	R-5	3	1	2	1	19	13	0	0	18	4	0	0	5	2
7/21/2008	R-5	17	4	0	2	38	35	2	0	5	2	1	1	4	7
Insecticide application on 6/22/2008 of 1pound AI Orthene/acre to treatment 1															

Test 2

Date	Growth Stage	GSB ³		BSB ⁴		3CAHA ⁵		3CAHI ⁶		LFB ⁷		GH ⁸		LFC ⁹	
		T1 ¹	T2 ²	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2
6/18/2008	R-3	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	38	25	0	0	0	0
6/25/2008	R-3	0	1	0	2	3	4	0	0	48	52	0	0	0	1
Insecticide application on 6/25/2008 of 0.025 pounds AI Mustang Maxx/acre to treatment 2 (after sample)															
7/1/2008	R-3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	15	8	3	0	2	0
7/9/2008	R-4	0	0	1	0	30	14	0	0	30	20	1	0	5	1
7/15/2008	R-4	0	0	0	2	46	20	5	0	35	91	7	0	7	5
Insecticide application on 7/17/2008 of 0.025 pounds AI Mustang Maxx/acre to treatment 1															
7/22/2008	R-5	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	2	123	0	0	2	6

Test 3

Date	Growth Stage	GSB ³		BSB ⁴		3CAHA ⁵		3CAHI ⁶		LFB ⁷		GH ⁸		LFC ⁹	
		T1 ¹	T2 ²	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2	T1	T2
6/26/2008	R-3	0	4	1	1	3	4	0	0	8	23	2	0	0	1
Insecticide application on 6/26/2008 of 0.02 pounds AI Baythroid XL/acre to treatment 2 (after sample)															
7/2/2008	R-4	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	38	8	2	0	2	0
7/10/2008	R-5	0	0	1	0	20	3	1	0	47	27	2	0	7	0
7/16/2008	R-5	2	0	1	0	39	2	2	0	101	38	1	0	3	0
Insecticide application on 7/16/2008 of 0.02 pounds AI Baythroid XL/acre to treatment 1 (after sample)															
7/23/2008	R-5	1	0	0	0	5	4	0	0	92	125	0	0	0	0

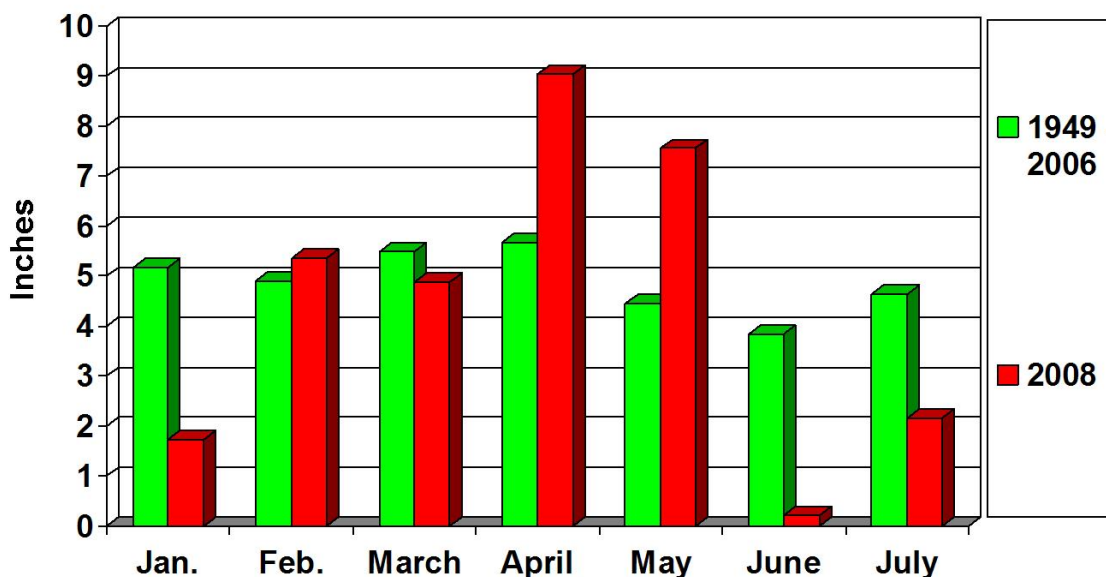
¹T1=treatment 1, ²T2=treatment 2, ³GSB=Green stinkbugs/100 sweeps, ⁴BSB=Brown stinkbugs/100 sweeps, ⁵3CAHA=Three cornered alfalfa hopper adults/100 sweeps, ⁶3CAHI=Three cornered alfalfa hopper immatures/100 sweeps, ⁷LFB=Leaf feeding beetles/100 sweeps (includes spotted and banded cucumber beetles, bean leaf beetles, and grape colapis), ⁸GH=Grasshoppers/100 sweeps, ⁹LFC=Leaf feeding caterpillars/100 sweeps (includes green clover worms, alfalfa caterpillar, loopers, and salt marsh caterpillars)

All of the tests have reached the treatment threshold of either 40 adults or 2 immature 3CAH's. In test 1 and test 3 treatment 1 triggered a treatment because 2 3CAH nymphs were sampled but the adults were 5 or less from the treatment criteria. Test 2 triggered with adults and immature being above the treatment criteria. The remainder of the season should be interesting.

Cotton Agronomics

Dr. Darrin Dodds

Cotton: According to the USDA crop report nearly all (97%) of the Mississippi Cotton crop is squaring as of July 20. At that same time, 61% of the crop was setting bolls compared to 70% this time last year and 71% on average at this time. However, the extreme dry conditions we have encountered over much of the state has begun to affect the condition of the 2008 crop. According to the USDA report, 65-70% of the crop was in good to excellent condition for most of June. However, we have seen this number decrease to 57% of the crop in good to excellent condition as of the third week of July.



The above graph is showing rainfall received at Moorhead, MS. The green bars represent average rainfall per month from 1949 to 2008 whereas the red bars depict rainfall received in 2008. As many of you remember, we went from being too wet to too dry in the span of about 10 days at the end of May and beginning of June. Less than ½” of rainfall was received in Moorhead in June and a little of 2” has been received in July. Dryland fields are suffering badly due to the lack of rainfall. Those fields that do have irrigation capability should be monitored very closely in regard to soil moisture status. The need for proper irrigation during flowering as well as during boll set and fill is magnified when abnormally dry and drought conditions persist as they have this summer. To give everyone an idea of drought conditions across the state, please see the U.S. drought monitor information below.

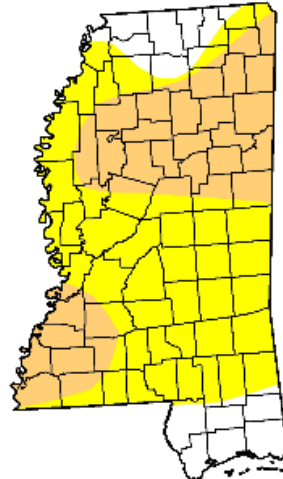
According to the U.S. drought monitor (see image below), nearly 86% of the state is classified as abnormally dry or in a moderate drought. When examining the current conditions section of the table it is important to understand how these tables are set up. At first glance, it appears that 14.5% of the state is not suffering from drought conditions, 85.5% of the state is abnormally dry, and 34.1% of the state is in a moderate drought. If you add these numbers up, it appears that 134.1% of the state is either in no drought, abnormally dry, or in a moderate drought. This table is designed such that each drought classification category is cumulative as conditions progress from an exceptional drought to no drought. An example of this is the current drought conditions above. 14.5 % of the state is not suffering from any drought. 85.5% of the state is abnormally dry; however, of that 85.5%, 34.1% is also in a moderate drought. In reality, 51.4% (85.5 – 34.1) of the state is abnormally dry and 34.1% of the state is in a moderate drought.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Mississippi

July 22, 2008
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	14.5	85.5	34.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Last Week (07/15/2008 map)	14.6	85.4	6.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
3 Months Ago (04/29/2008 map)	51.0	49.0	14.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2008 map)	44.4	55.6	13.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/02/2007 map)	28.7	71.3	29.4	16.7	5.7	0.0
One Year Ago (07/24/2007 map)	24.0	76.0	38.7	9.8	0.1	0.0



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, July 24, 2008
Author: Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Verification Program Update: The data from the verification given below was collected on July 17. Plant height increased approximately 4 – 8” in most fields with 1-2 additional nodes being added. Data for this week is being collected as this is being written (July 25) and will be given next week. As is the case in many parts of the state, these fields could use a good rain over the next several weeks in order to optimize yield and fiber quality.

Location	Height		# Nodes		NAWF		Internode Length*	
	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week	This Week	Last Week
Greenwood	33.8	28.5	14.9	13.6	4.6	5.3	2.6	2.7
Holly Ridge	32.4	27.5	13.9	12.2	6.6	--	3.1	3.1
Inverness	34.1	30.5	18.2	16.2	4.9	7	2.4	3.0
Inverness	37.2	28.9	15.6	14.4	6.7	6.7	3.3	2.4
Minter City	32.9	28.8	15.0	13.4	5.3	5.9	2.5	2.7

2008 Budworm/Bollworm Trap Captures

Pheromone Traps Captures – Don Cook, Chris Daves, and Fred Musser. Week of July 21, 2008.

County	This week last year Bollworm	Bollworm	This week last year Budworm	Budworm	Beet Armyworm
Calhoun	--	14	--	10	76
Chickasaw	49	8	9	14	37
Grenada	24	24	1	0	-
Hinds	3	100	2	15	0
Lafayette	--	164	--	0	0
Lee	28	15	4	2	18
Lowndes	140	42	3	71	3
Madison	6	34	2	2	10
Monroe	--	8	--	29	0
Noxubee	5	43	3	14	0
Oktibbeha	--	23	--	0	0
Pontotoc	--	8	--	0	0
Prentiss	10	10	6	3	2
Rankin	--	47	--	19	2
Scott	--	66	--	7	1
Union	27	15	2	1	4
Warren	--	164	--	42	14
Webster	--	49	--	0	0

Ryan Jackson USDA Trap line

July 21, 2008

County	This Week last Year Bollworm	Bollworm	This Week last Year Budworm	Budworm	BAW
Washington	8	8	1	0	-
Sharkey	24	85	0	0	-
Humphreys	14	91	1	30	-
Yazoo	8	8	0	0	-
Holmes	19	41	2	1	-
Leflore	42	15	0	32	-
Tallahatchie	33	16	0	3	-
Coahoma	68	115	1	0	-
Bolivar	78	82	0	0	-
Sunflower	26	83	1	0	-

2008 Southwestern Corn Borer

Southwestern Corn Borer - Chris Daves –July 23, 2008

County	Avg/Trap	County	Avg/Trap
Adams	-	Monroe	1
Attala	-	Montgomery	1
Calhoun	1	Noxubee	1
Carroll	-	Panola	-
Chickasaw	2	Pearl River	-
Clay	1	Perry	-
Coahoma	11	Pontotoc	5
Covington	-	Quitman	13
DeSoto	-	Rankin	-
Forrest	-	Scott	-
George	-	Sharkey	1
Grenada	29	Simpson	0
Hinds	-	Sunflower	2
Holmes	-	Tate	-
Humphreys	6	Tunica	-
Issaquena	1	Union	5
Leake	-	Warren	-
Lee	0	Washington	39
Leflore	31	Yalobusha	-
Lowndes	12	Yazoo	-
Madison	-		

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