



John Kringler
John Kringler
Extension Agent/Cass County
Crop Production

Cass County Extension

1010 2nd Ave South, PO Box 2806, Fargo, ND 58108

241-5700

e-mail: NDSU.Cass.Extension@ndsu.edu

TIME TO GET GRAIN BINS READY FOR HARVEST

If the weather stays warm this fall, insects may again pose a serious threat to stored grain. Confused flour beetle, Indian meal moth, rice weevil lesser grain borer and red flour beetle are all potential threats. Damage caused by these insects includes reduced grain weight and nutritional value, contamination, odor, mold and heat damage, which lowers the grain quality.

Take some time now to prepare your storage bins and prevent potential stored insect problems. The first step is to make sure that the bins are clean and free of insect infested grain. Remove leftover grain from the bin and sweep and vacuum the walls. Clean all grain-handling equipment, including augers, combines, trucks and wagons, thoroughly. When cleaning the bins, remember to get under aeration floors and inside aeration tubes as these are great spots for insects to hang out while waiting for you to fill the bin.

Apply a residual bin spray, such as Malathion, Tempo or Storcide II, to all interior bin surface areas two to three weeks before new grain is placed in the bin. The treatment will kill insects emerging from their hiding places (cracks, crevices, under floors and in aeration systems). Also, insects crawling or flying in from the outside will be killed. Check the label for rates.



Remove any vegetation that may attract and harbor insect pests within 10 feet of a bin and preferably the whole storage area. Follow by spraying the cleaned area around the bin with a residual herbicide to remove all undesirable weedy plants. Repair and seal all damaged areas to the storage structure. This will help prevent insect infestation and reduce water leakage, which leads to mold growth. Whenever fans are not operated, they should be covered and sealed to reduce the opportunity for insects and vertebrates to enter the bin through the aeration system.

WHAT DO WE DO WHEN LEAFY SPURGE BEETLES CAN'T KEEP UP?

The following information comes from Dr. Rodney Lym, Associate Chair and Professor NDSU Department of Plant Sciences.

The best time to start the IPM program for leafy spurge in pastures is this fall. Right now the adults are feeding on leafy spurge top growth and laying eggs, so herbicide application would be disruptive to the *Aphthona* life cycle.

You can either use Tordon plus 2,4-D or Plateau this fall at the normal spray dates (Early to mid September, please refer to pages 64 & 65 of the 2009 ND Weed Control Guide) and rates to reduce the leafy spurge density. Our research results have found that herbicides applied in the fall do not reduce flea beetle numbers but instead often cause an increase in population while also reducing the leafy spurge density much faster than either method used alone.

SOYBEAN APHID SCOUTING UPDATE



With the cool weather, soybean aphid continues to be below and well below the economic threshold level of 250 aphids per plant. In fact, it is hard to find soybean aphids in fields! Only one of the 27 fields scouted by the NDSU IPM Scouts last week had soybean aphids. It averaged only 14 aphids per plant and 40% of the plants infested. Stay tuned for more scouting reports. When scouting a soybean field, remember that many different insects inhabit soybean fields throughout the season. It's important to be aware of aphid predators, because they play a major role in reducing early populations of soybean aphids. A new resource on biological control of soybean aphids in the North Central States can be found at: <http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/sabc/> Research results have indicated that early-season

applications of insecticides for control of sub-economic populations of soybean aphids have caused more harm than good. So, 'SAY NO' to early-season insecticide applications for management of soybean aphids. In fact, early-season insecticides can aggravate other secondary insect pests like spider mites. Wait to treat until 250 aphids per plant are present on 80% of the plants in field. Remember, there is NO yield loss at the 250 aphids per plant level (economic threshold) and it also provides a 7-day window to apply any necessary insecticides without yield loss.

WHITE-TIPPED AWNS IN WHEAT

Some white tipped awns of wheat have showed up in plots that were planted on May 13th There are reports of similar observations in commercial wheat fields. White tipped awns may be more visible in certain varieties or be associated with specific planting dates. These white awn tips are NOT due to a disease, but are most likely associated with the sunny days and high winds that have recently occurred - the plants couldn't translocate moisture fast enough to the awns, and the tips dried out.



Cass County AgAlert is now available on the web at the following site address:

<http://www.ext.nodak.edu/county/cass/agriculture>

NDSU Extension Service, North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science, and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Duane Hauck, Director, Fargo, North Dakota. Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914. We offer our programs and facilities to all persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, Vietnam era veterans status, or sexual orientation; and are an equal opportunity employer.

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 818
Fargo, N. Dak.

North Dakota State University
Extension Service
PO Box 5437
Fargo, ND 58105