Plant Disease and Insect Advisory

Department Entomology and Plant Pathology
Oklahoma State University
127 Noble Research Center
Stillwater, OK 74078

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Latest Insecticide Prices and Current Status of Insects in Alfalfa

Phil Mulder, Extension Entomologist and Kelly Seuhs, Extension Assistant

Please find attached to this news release the latest insecticide price estimates obtained from Estes Chemical Company in Oklahoma City. This information is provided strictly as a guide to help in making insecticide choices in alfalfa. Prices will undoubtedly vary around the state, and rebates or special offers are not considered. Information related to residual control of organisms will also vary depending on environmental conditions, infestation levels and application.

The alfalfa weevil situation around the state has exceeded or will soon exceed threshold levels. In addition, most locations are experiencing moderate to extremely heavy populations of cowpea aphids (black colored aphids) feeding along the entire stem of most of their stand. If control of aphids has not already been initiated, and weevil populations are just now reaching threshold levels, then a tank mix with a longer residual compound in conjunction with either Lorsban or Pounce can provide excellent control of both organisms. In regards to the lighter weevil population, one application may suffice. If applications were made earlier for aphids only with a light rate of Lorsban, then carefully consider whether the added insecticide would be needed for subsequent applications. Many of the newer synthetic pyrethroids (MustangMax or Warrior or Baythroid) should control **cowpea aphid** populations that are moderate in numbers. For those of you who have not seen Fury around this year and wondered why, it is because Fury is being replaced by FMC with MustangMax. MustangMax has looked very effective in our trials over the last three years and actually has less active ingredient per gallon of concentrate.

As indicated in the table, the price of synthetic pyrethroids has not changed dramatically, with the exception of the permethrin products. The marketing of more products of this nature was supposedly going to drive down the cost. Unfortunately, this does not seem to be the case. From an efficacy standpoint, many of the newer pyrethroids (Listed in previous paragraph) are very similar in their control of weevil and aphid populations in alfalfa. Therefore, growers should be encouraged to make their choices between these compounds based on cost of active ingredient per acre.

INSECTICIDES FOR WEEVIL AND APHIDS IN ALFALFA

Insecticide	'03 Retail Cost Per/Gallon	Rate(s)/A*	2003 $/A**	Residual Effect-Weevil	Residual Effect-Aphids	Waiting Period to Harvest	Signal Word (Human Tox)
Lorsban 4E	39.00[a]	1pt - 1 qt (½ - 1 lb AI)	4.87 – 9.75	Short - Moderate	Moderate - Long	7 - 21	Warning
Furadan 4F	78.33[a]	1 pt - 1 qt (½ - 1 lb AI)	9.79 - 19.58	Moderate - Long	Moderate	14 - 28	Danger
Parathion 6-3	56.50[be]	½ - ¾ pt	3.53 – 5.29	Short	Short - Moderate	15	Danger
M-Parathion 4E	32.40[c]	½ - 1 pt (¼ - ½ lb AI)	2.02 - 4.05	Short	Short - Moderate	15	Danger
Penncap-M 2E	28.50[a]	1 qt (½ lb AI)	7.12	Short - Moderate	Short - Moderate	15	Warning
Dimethoate	36.40[a]	1 pt (½ lb AI)	4.55	Not recommended	Short - Moderate	10	Warning
Methomyl-Lannate 2.4	55.50[a]	1 ½ - 3 pts (0.45-0.90 lb AI)	10.40 – 20.81	Moderate	Not recommended	0	Danger
Malathion 5E	27.00[a]	1 ½ - 2.0 pt (1 - 1 ¼ lb AI)	5.06 - 6.75	Short - Moderate	Short - Moderate	0	Warning
Sevin Products							
80S	6.00/lb	1 ½ lb (1 ½ lb AI)	9.00	Short	Not Recommended	7	Warning
XLR Plus	34.50[a]	1 - 1 ½ qts (1 - 1 ½ lb AI)	8.62 -12.94	Short	Not Recommended	7	Caution
Synthetic Pyrethroids							
Baythroid 2E	361.00[d]	1.6 - 2.8 oz (0.025 - 0.044 AI)	4.51 – 7.89	Long	Moderate	7	Danger
Warrior 1EC	281.00[d]	1.92 - 3.84 oz (0.015 - 0.030AI)	4.21 - 8.43	Long	Moderate	7	Warning
Permethrin 3.2 EC	95.00[d]	2 - 8 oz (0.05 - 0.20 AI)	1.48 – 5.94	Short	Moderate	#.10 lb = 0 days >.10 lb = 14 days	Caution
Ambush 2.0 EC	116.50[d]	3.2 - 12.8 oz (0.05 - .20 AI)	2.91 – 11.65	Short	Not Recommended	#.10 lb = 0 days >.10 lb = 14 days	Warning
MustangMax 0.8 EC	206.00[d]	2.24 – 4.0 oz (0.014 – 0.025 AI)	3.60 – 6.44	Long	Moderate-Long	3	Warning

*Lower rates for aphid control and higher rates for weevils; Lower rates are not recommended for effective weevil control

**Depicts Retail Cost (Dealer Price + 10 % markup); Does not include application costs.

[a]Price indicated reflects purchase of 2 ½ gal. container.

[b]Price indicated reflects purchase of 55-gal. container.

[c]Price indicated reflects purchase of 15 gal.-keg.

[d]Price indicated reflects purchase of 1-gal. container.

[e]Aerial application only.

Caution=Slightly Toxic
Warning=Moderately Toxic
Danger = Highly Toxic

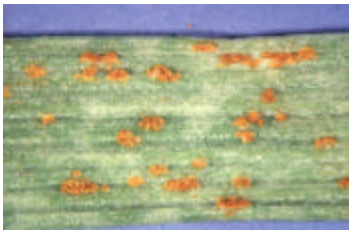
Prepared by P.G. Mulder 03/27/03

Wheat Disease Update – 31 Mar 2003

Bob Hunger, Extension Wheat Pathologist

Foliar Diseases. Although I have not yet seen or heard of significant levels of wheat rusts in Oklahoma, there is plenty of inoculum in Texas. Below are ratings taken in a variety trial at Uvalde (80 miles west of San Antonio) for **wheat stripe rust**, at Luling (70-80 miles east of San Antonio) for **wheat leaf rust**, and at College Station for **powdery mildew**. All ratings are based on a scale of '0-5', with '0' being resistant and '5' being susceptible (thanks to Rex Herrington for supplying the ratings!).

Variety	Stripe rust	Leaf rust	Powdery mildew	Variety	Stripe rust	Leaf rust	Powdery mildew
2137	5	5	0	Above	4	5	0
2145	2	2	5	Coronado	4	2	5
2174	5	3	0	Cutter	0	0	5
Custer	5	5	5	Jagalene	0	0	5
Intrada	4	1	5	Jagger	0	5	5
Ok101	5	4	5	Lockett	0	3	2
Ok102	0	3	5	Longhorn	2	1	0
Tam 107	5	5	0	Ogallala	4	2	5
Tam 110	5	5	2	Thunderbolt	2	5	5
Tam 200	5	4	0	Trego	5	0	5
Tam 202	2	4	0	Venango	4	5	5
Tam 302	5	4	5	Pecos	4	2	5
Tam 400	5	4	0	Hickok	5	0	5



The only rust I've seen in Oklahoma so far has been a few pustules of **wheat leaf rust** here at Stillwater. I have plans to travel away from Stillwater through this week, so may have more to report next week.

There is a high level of **powdery mildew** on many varieties and lines in the nurseries located here near Stillwater, which is not unusual. With the coming of dry and warm/hot weather, the powdery mildew usually does not continue to advance up the tillers. If flag leaves are not infected, powdery mildew is not considered to hurt yields.

Viruses. Here's a reminder that we have funds to conduct testing of wheat for presence of barley yellow dwarf virus. Just send a foliar sample into the Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Lab (Brian Olson) and the testing for BYDV presence will be conducted at no charge. Be sure to include the typical information sent with samples, such as county from where the sample was collected, variety, incidence/severity, etc.

Dr. Richard Grantham
Director, Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Laboratory

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