



# Pest e-alerts



---

Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University  
127 Noble Research Center, Stillwater, OK74078  
405.744.5527

---

Vol. 9, No. 34

<http://entopl.okstate.edu/Pddl/>

Sep 24, 2010

---

## Fall Armyworm Notice Part II: Check Your Pasture and Wheat!

Tom A. Royer, Extension Entomologist

I continue to receive reports of fall armyworms in wheat and pasture. The latest reports are from Logan (caterpillar counts ranging from 6-12 per square foot ) and Murray (8-20 per square foot ) counties in OK and in SE Kansas.

Scout pastures with a wire coat hanger, bend it into a hoop, place it on the ground, and count fall armyworms in the hoop. Examine plants at several locations along the field margin as well as in the interior. Look for “window paned” leaves and count all sizes of larvae. The hoop covers about 2/3 of a square foot, so a threshold in pasture would be an average of two or three ½ inch-long larvae per hoop sample.



In wheat (once it has emerged) scout for fall armyworms by examining plants in several (5 or more) locations in the field. Fall armyworms are most active in the morning or late afternoon. Look for “window paned” leaves and count all sizes of larvae. As with pasture, examine plants along the field margin as well as in the interior, because they often move in from road ditches

and weedy areas. The suggested treatment threshold is 3 to 4 larvae per linear foot of row in wheat with active feeding.

Several pyrethroid insecticides have been registered in pasture this year, so consult the newly updated OSU Fact Sheets CR-7193 "*Management of Insect Pests in Rangeland and Pasture*" and CR-7194 "*Management of Insect and Mite Pests of Small Grains*".

---

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

Oklahoma State University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Robert E. Whitson, Director of Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma. This publication is printed and issued by Oklahoma State University as authorized by the Vice President, Dean, and Director of the Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural.