



Pest e-alerts



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First Oklahoma Sugarcane Aphid Report, 2017

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Sugarcane aphids have now been found in sorghum in Caddo, Garfield, Jackson, Kiowa, and Payne counties. In all cases, infestations were on one or two plants per field. The number of aphids ranged from 2-5 on one leaf, and detections were composed of a mix of winged adults and small nymphs. Not surprisingly, we found yellow sugarcane aphid, greenbug, and corn leaf aphids as well. We will provide weekly reports of sugarcane aphid presence and numbers throughout the rest of the summer, along with control suggestions and updates on research activities regarding sugarcane aphids and sorghum.



Sugarcane aphid



Yellow sugarcane aphid



Corn leaf aphid



Greenbug

Now that they have been detected, we urge growers to inspect their fields once a week. Do not spray until suggested thresholds are reached, Apply the spray with the highest amount of water carrier as possible (5 or more gallons/acre by air, or 10 or more gallons/acre by ground). Spraying too early and with inadequate coverage may require a second application from aphid recolonization.

The current recommendation for control of sugarcane aphid is ***to treat if 20-30% of plants are infested*** (an infested plant has at least one colony of aphids). Consult CR-7170, *Management of Insect and Mite Pests in Sorghum* for suggestions on other registered insecticides.

Two insecticides are registered that provide effective control of sugarcane aphid in sorghum. **Sivanto** (200 SL and Sivanto Prime) received a Section 2ee registration that allows producers to apply it at 4-7 fl oz per acre. Oklahoma obtained a Section 18 Emergency Exemption label for the use of **Transform WG** that is in effect until November 30, 2017. It is registered for application at 0.75-1.5 oz./acre. For pollinator protection, Transform should be sprayed before 7:00 am or after 7:00 pm, or if temperatures are below 55 degrees F at the site of the application (an extremely rare event until later in the fall).

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