



Pest e-alerts



Entomology and Plant Pathology, Oklahoma State University
127 Noble Research Center, Stillwater, OK 74078
405.744.5527

Vol. 18, No. 8

<http://entopl.okstate.edu/pddl/pdid/>

4/1/2019

Alfalfa Weevil Update—1 April 2019
Kelly Seuhs, Associate Extension Specialist
Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology
Oklahoma State University
127 Noble Research Center, Stillwater, OK 74078

Decision time to determine application threshold for alfalfa weevil control is upon us or quickly approaching if fields haven't already been treated. Populations in our efficacy trials this year in Chickasha, OK reached threshold levels last week (3-25-2019) and have been treated. I have heard from several locations around the state with similar responses for those locations as well, especially throughout the southern part of the state where degree days are approaching 400 in some areas (Table 1).

Table 1. Current Degree Days through 3-31-2019 in various counties of the state are listed below.

County	Degree Days	County	Degree Day
Comanche	363	Payne	320
Garvin	392	Pottawatomie	328
Kingfisher	284	Rogers	258
Kiowa	332	Tillman	396
Major	287	Alfalfa	268

Growers in the Chickasha and Pauls Valley vicinities were also making applications last week. While early season (February) egg counts were low, due to warmer conditions in mid-March, increased adult activity, spring egg deposition, and subsequent hatch has occurred allowing weevil populations to increase rapidly. Many of the reports I'm getting are well above threshold level. As you move farther north, we are a little behind as far as threshold numbers in the Stillwater area. The past weekend's cooler/wet weather may help to slow development a bit, however, we are due some 70° plus temperatures later this week so growers should be in fields now scouting and ready to make treatment decisions.



Alfalfa Weevil larvae



Alfalfa Weevil Adult



I have seen a few aphids starting to appear in some of the samples. So far, numbers that I have seen and reports from around the state have been minimal and well below threshold levels. As we normally would find this time of year, I'm seeing Cowpea, Pea, and Blue aphid activity, however, nowhere near the levels we saw this time last year. Favorable growing conditions and moisture has helped to keep aphid populations in check and promote alfalfa growth.

Disease and Insect Diagnostic Laboratory

The pesticide information presented in this publication was current with federal and state regulations at the time of printing. The user is responsible for determining that the intended use is consistent with the label of the product being used. Use pesticides safely. Read and follow label directions. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.

Oklahoma State University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Higher Education Act), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal and state laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, genetic information, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, or status as a veteran, in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This provision includes, but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services. The Director of Equal Opportunity, 408 Whitehurst, OSU, Stillwater, OK 74078-1035; Phone 405-744-5371; email: eeo@okstate.edu has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Director of Equal Opportunity. Any person (student, faculty, or staff) who believes that discriminatory practices have been engaged in based on gender may discuss his or her concerns and file informal or formal complaints of possible violations of Title IX with OSU's Title IX Coordinator 405-744-9154.

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