COTTON INSECT CORNER (www.run.to/cotton): NORTH CAROLINA'S COTTON INFORMATION HEADQUARTERS

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Abstract

During the past four years, we have developed the Cotton Insect Corner, a web site dedicated to providing practical cotton insect management information to North Carolina's producers, county agents, consultants, and industry personnel. The site includes our project's various publications, applied research writeups with Pesticide Research Manager tables in PDF format, all of our project's slide presentations in downloadable PowerPoint format, a Cotton Insect Photo Gallery, current and archived black light trap data, a seasonal weekly Pest News insect update, and links to other relevant cotton agronomic and insect information. The text below describes the major components of this site.

Cotton Insect Scouting Guide

(http://ipmwww.ncsu.edu/cotton/insects/scout insects.html)

The Cotton Insect Scouting Guide is a practical field handbook covering pest biology, scouting procedures, action thresholds, and cotton insect management in general. In its on-line version, this publication can be kept updated on a more regular basis. Current plans are to illustrate this guide in 2002, with hyperlinks to images of insects, damage, scouting procedures, cotton phenology, and other related items.

Cotton Research Results

(http://ipm.ncsu.edu/cotton/insectcorner/research.htm)

The cotton research link provides accesses to our project's applied research results for producers, county agents, consultants and industry personnel. Associated tables, produced by Gylling PRM 5.1 software, are scanned and posted as PDF files. These reports are available on line approximately five months earlier than their Arthropod Management Test counterparts.

Cotton Insect Photo Gallery

(http://ipm.ncsu.edu/cotton/insectcorner/photos/bollworm.htm)

The Cotton Insect Photo Gallery currently contains over 275 images of major cotton insect pests and their damage, beneficial insects, insect monitoring traps, scouting procedures and equipment, cotton plant growth, and other cotton IPM items. These images provide a handy resource for cotton scouts, agents and consultants, and have been downloaded by a number of our clientele for use in their own educational programs.

Power Point Data Slides

(http://ipm.ncsu.edu/cotton/insectcorner/slideshow/index.htm)

The PowerPoint Data Slides link contains the data and recommendations presented by project personnel at various producer and professional meetings. PowerPoint format allows individuals to download and to modify files for their own use, and provides wider access of and visibility for our project's data.

Southeast Farm Press Articles

(http://ipm.ncsu.edu/cotton/insectcorner/Farmpres.htm)

Southeast Farm Press Articles offer North Carolina's cotton producers practical in-season advice about managing our major insect pests. However, as opposed to the 3-week delay between submission of a SEFP article and its publication, our on-line version of these articles is posted immediately, providing county agents and consultants lead time in using this information in their own programs. Additionally, our more lengthy on-line articles can provide more detail and offer more documentation (such as tables), than the SEFP publication format typically accommodates.

Back Light Trap Data

(http://ipm.ncsu.edu/cotton/insectcorner/blacklight/index.htm)

Black light trap counts of our primary cotton pest, the cotton bollworm, *Helicoverpa zea*, are used by cotton scouts, agents, and consultants to help gauge the timing and intensity of our major July through August moth flights. This information, if provided on a regular basis, helps determine scouting frequency, and provides an indication of potential larval pressure. Our black light trap data link provides both a detailed listing of the previous year's individual light trap data from across the state (50 traps in 2001), but also provides in-season counts 3 times per week from approximately 20 of our traps. This same day trap information is posted on individual county web sites for local moth counts. Because individual county home pages often take some searching to find their respective links to light trap counts, our project has direct links under the above ULR to all of the counties posting moth counts. We expect to post additional real time on-line light trap counts during the 2002 growing season.

North Carolina Pest News

(http://ipm.ncsu.edu/cotton/insectcorner/week.htm)

Our project's contribution to this online, multi-crop newsletter is the providing of weekly updates on present and predicted insect conditions and management recommendations throughout the growing season. Because these columns are online, color images of insects pests or their damage can be provided via hypertext links. The light trap data provided in this newsletter is also coordinated through our project.

Cotton Information Booklet

(http://ipm.ncsu.edu/Production_Guides/Cotton/contents.html)

Cotton Information is an annually revised hard copy and online booklet which covers all aspects of cotton production and plant protection. Our project contributes a chapter on managing cotton insects, a chapter on cotton definitions, and an insect section as part of a chapter on conservation tillage.

Other Links

A number of other cotton insect-related links and general cotton links are available through the Cotton Insect Corner.