



UGA extension

Ag Notes | Webster County and Stewart County | August 2017

Dates to Remember

August 11, 2017
Stewart County 4-H
Fund Raiser Pop Up
Shop
390 Broad Street
Richland, GA

October 21, 2017
Webster County 4-H
Fall Carnival
Preston, GA

Peanut Insect Update

By Dr. Mark Abney, *Extension Entomologist*

Things have been relatively quiet in terms of insect pressure in most peanut fields so far in 2017, but that could change quickly. I have been getting reports of heavy caterpillar pressure in some areas of Florida, and agents and consultants are reporting a mixed bag of loopers, velvetbean and other caterpillars have shown up in Georgia over the last week. I strongly encourage growers to scout their peanuts and only make insecticide applications when caterpillars reach the economic threshold.

We have been looking for three cornered alfalfa hoppers (TCAH) for several weeks, and numbers have started to increase over the last ten days. There will be a lot of interest in spraying this insect, but there are several things to keep in mind when making management decisions. The first is there are no valid economic thresholds, and opinions vary about whether or how it should be managed. While this is frustrating, it provides some insight into the pest status of the insect. If TCAH routinely caused serious economic loss, we would know it. Can TCAH affect yield? Probably. Can you achieve high yields with lots of TCAH stem girdles? Yes.

There have been some reports of reduced activity of pyrethroids against TCAH, but pyrethroids will still be the go to products in most fields. This leads us to the warning about destroying beneficial insects and flaring secondary pests that can happen any time we use a broad spectrum insecticide like a pyrethroid or an organophosphate. In spite of the rain much of Georgia received, I remain cautious about using pyrethroids in non-irrigated fields due to the risk of flaring mites. Another thing to remember is that TCAH adults are highly mobile and can quickly re-infest a field following an insecticide application. If we decide to spray, the decision should take into consideration the abundance of the immature stages. TCAH nymphs are not very mobile, and they cause the majority of the stem girdling injury. If there are no nymphs in the field, consider postponing any insecticide application.

Several calls have come in over the last week about whiteflies in peanut. Most of you are aware that silverleaf whitefly populations are high in some areas of Georgia, and the insect is now showing up in peanut fields. I tracked whiteflies in trials last year, and reproduction rates were very low and slow. That does not mean that problems will not develop this year. We need to be scouting fields and watching these populations to see how or if they are progressing. Our options for treatment are limited. Cotton growers have learned the value of conserving beneficial insects and have witnessed the destruction that whiteflies can cause when they do not; this is another reason to make sure we only apply insecticides to peanut fields when pest populations are at threshold.

Griffeth Notes – This was sent last weekend and things are picking up. I've heard of more insects, particularly lesser cornstalk borers and even wireworms. Scout your fields.

Row Crop Disease Update

By Dr. Bob Kemeraït, *Extension Plant Pathologist*

Environment: It is anticipated that rain will continue to be in the forecast for the upcoming week as will be cooler temperatures. Conditions are favorable now (good growth of most of our crops, reproductive growth, i.e., flowering and fruit set, moisture) for many of our diseases to develop and progress. White mold (stem rot) of peanut will be favored by moisture but cooler temperatures are less favorable for development and spread than if it was wet and very warm.

What we are seeing: Peanut leaf spot diseases and white mold (stem) rot are being reported, but I don't know of any commercial field where they are currently a problem. I am easily finding southern rust, northern corn leaf blight and southern corn leaf blight in our corn fields around the state. In most cases, the corn is old enough that it doesn't matter anymore. But growers with corn not yet to dough stage should be concerned. We are finding (and having help finding...) bacterial blight and target spot in our cotton crop. Bacterial blight is MOST common in DPL 1747; however, we are finding it in other varieties as well. Conditions are near-perfect for target spot on cotton. Asian soybean rust is present in kudzu in our most southern tier of counties. It is only a matter of time before it makes a move north. Frogeye leaf spot is also a problem in some soybean fields.

What to watch for:

Peanuts: leaf spot and white mold diseases.

Cotton: Bacterial blight and target spot. I am working closely with Dr. Jared Whitaker to assess all county cotton variety trials for bacterial blight and target spot. I am on my way to see you...

Soybeans: frogeye leaf spot and rust.

White Mold in
Peanuts



Tornado Track Database

Pam Knox, our Extension Climatologist, sent a link to a site from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center at the University of Illinois which tracks every tornado from 1950 – 2016. I know a lot of you are weather nuts, but I had a lot of fun playing with this website. You can look at every tornado, or you can only look at F5/EF5, or you can only look at your state and even your county. It is extremely interactive.

For example, there have been 0 F5/EF5 tornadoes in Georgia but 11 F4/EF4 tornadoes. According to the map, the largest tornado to hit Webster County was an EF3 in 2007 (I was actually visiting my mother in Tifton that night). The largest tornado to hit Stewart County was an F2 in 1954, 1961, and 2008. This site does not include data from this year, which would show more storms.

If you are looking at the track data, you can click on individual storms and see the all the information, including the data, time, injuries, fatalities, length, and width.

<http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/gismaps/cntytor.htm#>

Contact the Extension Office

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General Information

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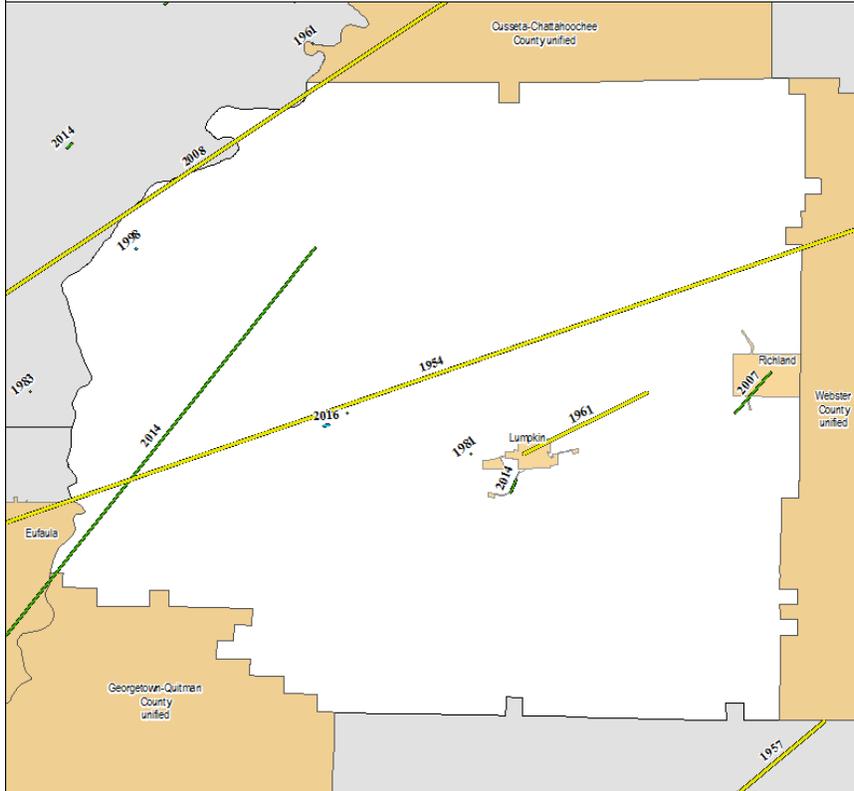
Lumpkin, GA 31815

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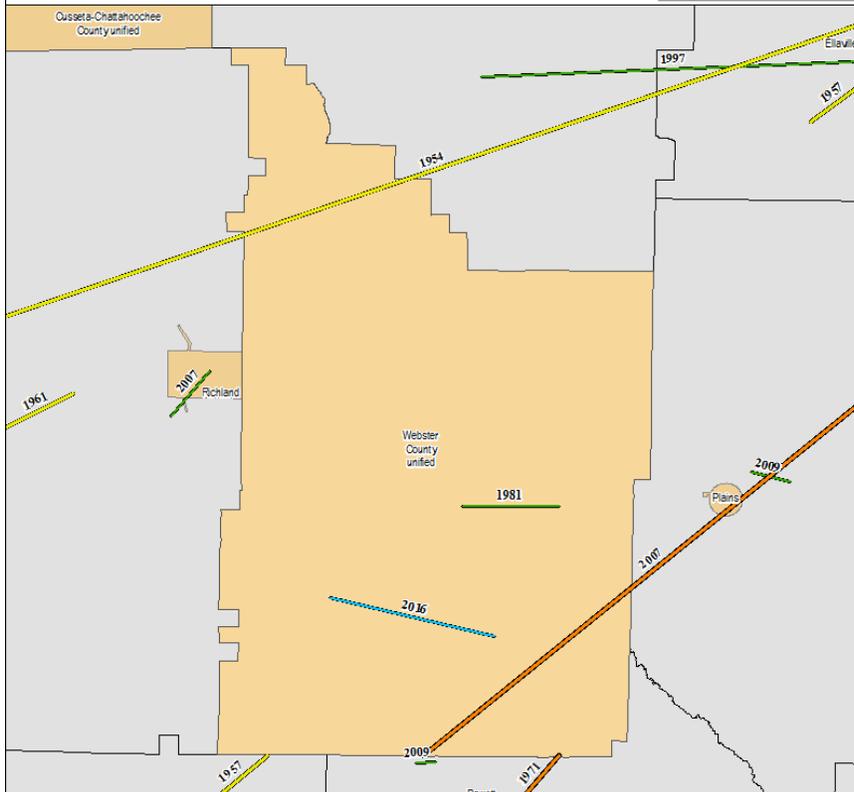
229.838.6485 (Fax)

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Tornado Tracks, 1950-2016 (from NWS SPC)
Stewart County, GA



Tornado Tracks, 1950-2016 (from NWS SPC)
Webster County, GA



Scout ALL Cotton for Corn Earworm

Posted on July 19, 2017 by Phillip Roberts at Georgia Cotton News

During the past week we have received a few reports of escaped corn earworm CEW) larvae in Bt cottons which exceed recommended thresholds. Bt cottons are not immune to CEW and never have been. All Bt cottons should be scouted for CEW and growers should be prepared to react in a timely manner if thresholds are exceeded.

We have planted Bt cottons for over 20 years. The technology has moved from a single Bt gene to two gene and now three Bt genes. The addition of Bt genes was for two reasons primarily: 1) to improve efficacy and increase the spectrum of activity and 2) for resistance management. The slide below is a general rating for Bt cottons for various caterpillar pests.



Bt Cottons are not IMMUNE to caterpillar pests!

IPM principles and practices are needed and provide value to the grower!

o=no activity, +++=very good

3-gene Bt Cottons -Resistance Management -Improved Efficacy	TBW Tobacco Budworm	CEW Corn Earworm	SBL Soybean Looper	BAW Beet Armyworm	FAW Fall Armyworm
WideStrike 3 (Cry1Ac+Cry1F+Vip3A)	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
Bollgard II (Cry1Ac+Cry2Ab)	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
TwinLink (Cry1Ab+Cry2Ae)	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
WideStrike (Cry1Ac+Cry1F)	+++	+++	+++	++	+++

2017 limited introductions:
TwinLink Plus (Cry1Ab+Cry2Ae+Vip3A)
Bollgard 3 (Cry1Ac+Cry2Ab+Vip3A)

Activity on CEW varies by technology, however all technologies should be scouted. Entomologists in Georgia and other areas of the cotton belt believe we are seeing changes in the susceptibility of CEW to some Bt genes. We have been fortunate in Georgia in that only a small percentage of Bt cottons have required treatment for escaped CEW in recent years. However we have observed changes in performance of Bt corn in recent years, i.e. seeing more damage to corn ears. We are also seeing more feeding on squares in Bt cotton which was very rare 5 years ago. One aspect of Bt cotton that we must not forget is that all Bt cottons continue to provide excellent control of tobacco budworm.

When scouting Bt for CEW cotton, scouts should examine the top 12 inches of the plant for eggs and larvae and also examine one bloom, one bloom tagged boll (be sure to look under bloom tag), and an additional boll lower in the canopy. If any damage is observed on the plant the entire plant should be searched. It is important to size larvae as small (< ¼ inch) or large (> ¼ inch). Once larvae reach ¼ inch in length it is likely those larvae will survive (Cry on the Bt plant and continue to feed. When we observe escaped CEW larvae, they

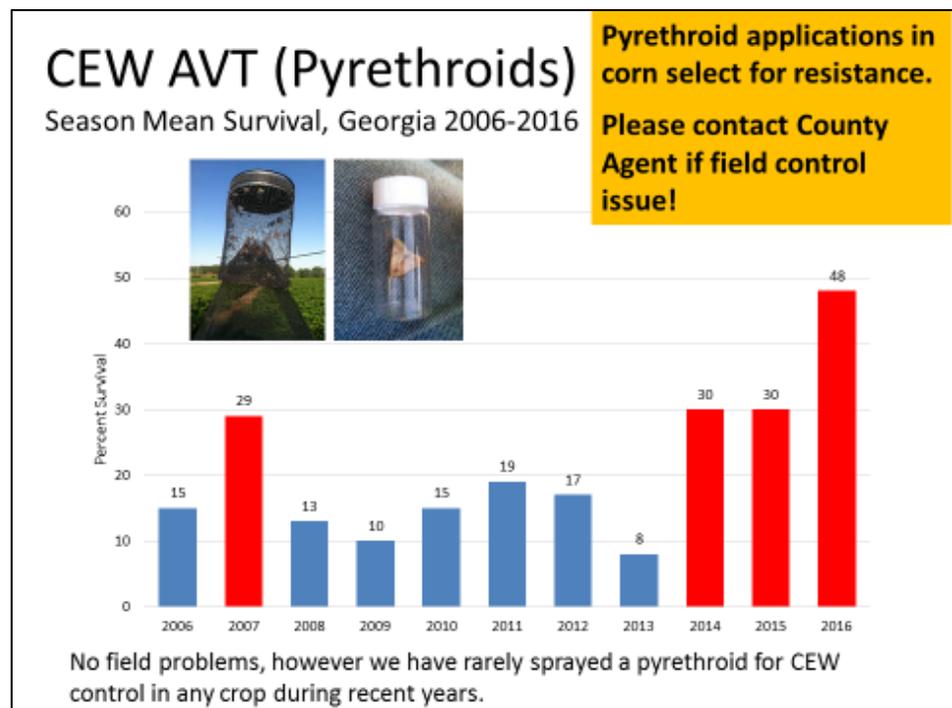
are often associated with fruiting structures near the uppermost white bloom. So make sure you check blooms, bloom tagged bolls, and small bolls closely. The slide below shows various images of CEW in cotton.



The threshold for CEW larvae in Bt cotton is when 8 larvae ¼ inch or greater in length are found per 100 plants. When treating escaped CEW in Bt cotton, coverage and penetration of the canopy with sprays will be important. We must get the insecticide to the target as larvae will likely be down in the plant canopy. Control of larvae in bolls and under bloom tags will be difficult.

Pyrethroids have been the standard treatment for CEW for many years. In parts of the cotton belt pyrethroid activity on CEW has deteriorated. For example some states in the Mid-South do not recommend pyrethroids for control of CEW due to pyrethroid resistance and field control

failures. We annually monitor CEW susceptibility to pyrethroids in Georgia using adult vial tests. Basically we capture adult CEW moths in pheromone traps and place those in pyrethroid treated vials and monitor survival. During recent years and especially during 2016 we observed increased survival of CEW in these tests which suggests susceptibility is changing. However, we have not observed or been made aware of any field control issues when pyrethroids have been used for CEW control. With that said, we have made few field applications of pyrethroids for control of CEW in any crop during recent years. Bottom line is it will be important for us to check behind pyrethroid applications targeting CEW. There are non-pyrethroid alternatives that will provide very good control of CEW. The slide below illustrates CEW survival in pyrethroid treated vials.



Scouting Silverleaf Whiteflies in Cotton

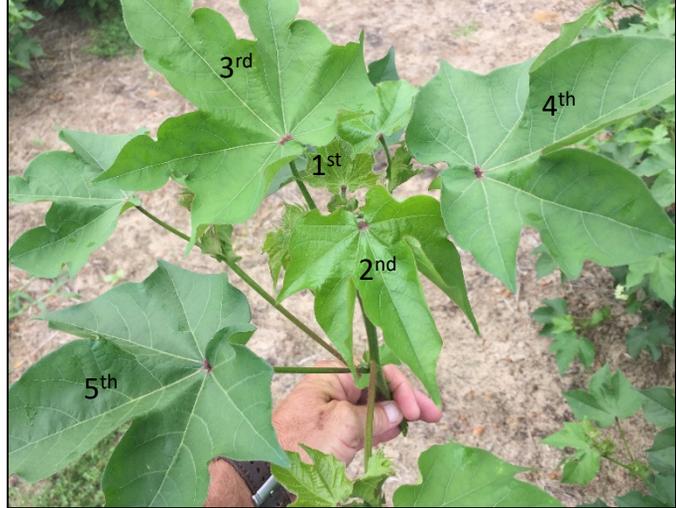
Phillip Roberts and Mike Toews
University of Georgia

The goal in silverleaf whitefly (SLWF) management is to initiate control measures just prior to the period of most rapid pest population development. Routine sampling is required to identify the rate of SLWF population increase. IPM principles and practices such as conservation of beneficial insects should be employed to delay population buildup. A well-timed initial SLWF insecticide application will pay significant economic dividends in reducing overall insecticide inputs and plant injury.

SLWF adults (solid white wings) and immatures will be found on the underside of leaves. SLWF populations are best estimated from the 5th main stem leaf below the terminal. Main stem leaves are attached directly to the main stem by their petioles. The top or first main stem leaf is defined as the uppermost leaf which is 1 inch or larger in diameter. Adults and nymphs should be counted on the 5th main stem leaf below the terminal.

Steps for Efficient Sampling of Whiteflies

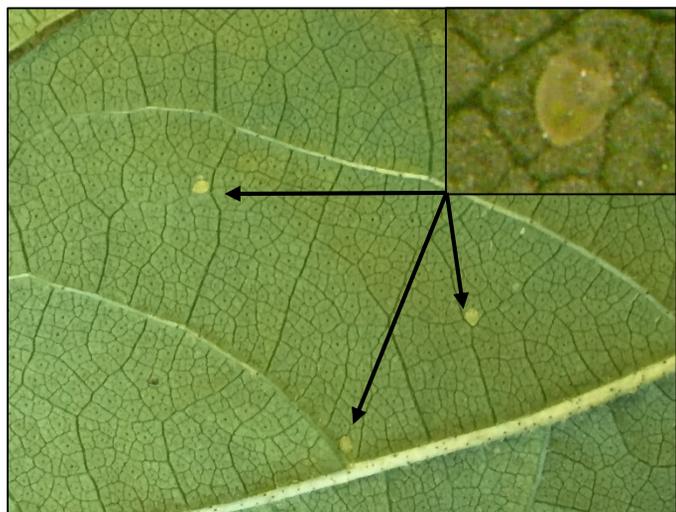
1. Familiarize yourself with the general location of the 5th main stem leaf in each field.
2. Select plants at random at least 25 paces into the field and at least 10 paces apart, being careful to keep your shadow from passing over the plant you plan to sample.
3. Turn the 5th leaf over slowly by its tip or petiole and count the leaf as infested with adults if it has 3 or more adults on it. Include in your counts any adults that fly up from the leaf as you turn it over.
4. Detach the leaf by the petiole from the main stem. If it fails to snap off easily, you have likely sampled a leaf that is too high on the plant. Recheck your leaf position to make sure you are sampling the 5th leaf.
5. Examine the bottom of the leaf for the presence of immature SLWFs. Count the leaf as infested if it has 5 or more immatures on the underside of the leaf. Sample at least 30 plants (leaves) per field.
6. Calculate the percentage of leaves infested with adults and the percentage of leaves infested with immatures.
7. Treatment is recommended when 50 percent of sampled leaves are infested with immature SLWFs.



Find the 5th main stem leaf below the terminal.



Adult SLWF Infestations: leaves are considered infested if 3 adult SLWFs are observed. After counting adults detach the leaf from the main stem.



Immature SLWF Infestations: leaves are considered infested if 5 immatures are observed.

Managing Silverleaf Whiteflies in Cotton

Phillip Roberts and Mike Toews
University of Georgia



Following these guidelines, especially on a community basis, should result in better management of SLWF locally and areawide.

- Destroy host crops immediately after harvest; this includes vegetable and melon crops in the spring and cotton (timely defoliation and harvest) and other host crops in the fall.
- Scout cotton on a regular basis for SLWF adults and immatures.
- The presence of SLWF should influence insecticide selection and the decision to treat other pests.
- Conserve beneficial insects; do not apply insecticides for ANY pests unless thresholds are exceeded.
- Avoid use of insecticides for other pests which are prone to flare SLWF.
- Risk for SLWF problems:
 - Hairy leaf > smooth leaf cotton.
 - Late planted > early planted cotton.
 - Hot and dry > rainy conditions.
- All efforts should be made to minimize the need to treat SLWF with insecticide.

Insecticide Use:

The goal of SLWF management is to initiate control measures just prior to the period of most rapid SLWF population development. It is critically important that initial insecticide applications are well timed. If you are late with the initial application control will be very difficult and expensive in the long run. It is nearly impossible to regain control once the population reaches outbreak proportions!

- SLWF Threshold: Treat when 50 percent of sampled leaves (sample 5th expanded leaf below the terminal) are infested with multiple immatures (≥5 per leaf).
- Insect Growth Regulators (Knack and Courier): use of IGRs are the backbone of SLWF management programs in cotton. Effects on SLWF populations are generally slow due to the life stages targeted by IGRs, however these products have long residual activity and perform very well when applied on a timely basis.
- Use of other insecticide options which are active on all life stages have quicker effects on SLWF infestations but lack the residual of IGRs.
- SLWF is an areawide cross commodity problem. When all parties use sound SLWF management programs all will benefit.

Insecticides	Safety to Beneficials	Control Interval ¹	Life Stages Affected
<i>pyriproxyfen</i> Knack	Excellent	14-30 days	Eggs and mature nymphs
<i>buprofezin</i> Courier	Excellent	14-30 days	Nymphs
<i>acetamiprid</i> Assail, others	Moderate	14-21 days	All stages
<i>flupyradifurone</i> Sivanto	Good	7-21 days	All stages
<i>dinotefuran</i> Venom	Moderate	7-14 days	All stages
<i>spiromesifin</i> Oberon	Good	14-21 days	Primarily nymphs

¹Control interval dependent on rate, timing of application, reinfestation rate and pest pressure, and beneficial insect populations.

Do not mix broad spectrum insecticides (bifenthrin) with selective insecticides (IGRs) for SLWF control unless a tank-mix is required to control multiple insect pests.



News Release (7/12/2017)

For Immediate Dissemination

Contact: Dr. Michael Toews, UGA Extension Specialist on Grain Storage (mtoews@uga.edu)

Update on Stored Corn Protectants:

For the first time in many years, we have several new products on the market as noted below.

Products for Empty Bins

Centynal EC. This is a good product for treating empty bins and elevator boots. Note that the active ingredient in Centynal EC, Defense SC and Suspend SC are identical so these are not good rotation partners.

Defense SC (labeled for empty bin use only). This is a good product for treating empty bins and elevator boots, but is not labeled for application directly to grain. Note that the active ingredient in Centynal EC, Defense SC and Suspend SC are identical so these are not good rotation partners.

Suspend SC. This is a good product for treating empty bins and elevator boots. Note that the active ingredient in Centynal EC, Defense SC and Suspend SC are identical so these are not good rotation partners.

Tempo SC (labeled for empty bin use only). Tempo is a good product for treating empty bins and elevator boots, but is not labeled for application directly to grain.

Products for Application to Grain

Actellic 5E (labeled for corn only). This product has been the standard for many years, but it is expensive. A full rate will provide protection from weevils for 9-12 months. Reducing the rate will decrease the longevity of the protection. Our data suggest that Actellic is susceptible to heat degradation in the drier when grain temperatures exceed 120 F.

Centynal EC (labeled for corn and wheat). Centynal EC is a new formulation that will provide 3 to 6 months of protection from weevils at the 0.5 ppm rate or 6 to 12 months of protection at the 1.0 ppm rate. This material is heat stable in the drier (tested up to 150 F).

Diacon (labeled for corn and wheat). Diacon is an insect growth regulator that is effective for killing nearly all immature grain moths and beetles, except weevils. The 4 oz per 1000 bu rate is sufficient for tank mixing.

Diacon IGR PLUS (labeled for corn and wheat). This product is a premix of Centynal EC and Diacon. See comments above for rates and activity.

Malathion (labeled for wheat and corn). Although widely used in the past, this product is no longer recommended due to well documented resistance in many stored grain insect populations.

Sensat (labeled for corn and wheat). This product is new to the market, but has been in our evaluation program for several years. Test results show excellent weevil control for up to 12 months. No dryer stability data at this time.

Storcide II (labeled for wheat only). Storcide II is an industry standard for stored wheat, but is not labeled for use on corn. Protection will degrade with heat and time.

Suspend SC (labeled for corn and wheat). This product is an older formulation that must be completely suspended before measuring and requires frequent agitation. It provides 3 to 6 months of protection from weevils.

Three-way tankmix (only tested on corn). UGA tests from 2014-2016 showed that a three-way tank mix of Centynal (8.5 oz) plus Diacon IGR (4 oz) plus PBO-8 Synergist (13.5 oz) will provide 6-9 months of protection from weevils. This is a moderately priced option for growers in markets where other products are unavailable or cost is a limiting factor.

Regardless of the product used, be mindful that grain protectants are not a silver bullet. Shelled corn should be dried to a maximum of 15% moisture content before dropping it in the bin. Chemical applications should only be made to clean grain that will be stored for more than 3 months. Apply protectants at the bottom of the auger in a course spray to maximize coverage as the kernels are moving up to the top of the bin. Long-term grain storage requires appropriate moisture content, proper housekeeping, use of a spreader when filling bins, and managed aeration.

Additional information is available in the 2017 Georgia Pest Management Handbook or in a recent Extension Publication (<http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/I/IPM-0330/IPM-0330.pdf>) that Dr. Kathy Flanders at Auburn University and I authored.

Keeping Your Financial Records Secure

By Lorna Saboe-Wounded Head, South Dakota State University Extension, Drivers Online, May 30, 2017

When a family emergency or disaster occurs, having quick access to important financial documents is essential. These documents include banking information, insurance cards and policies, wills and power of attorney documents, household inventory, and birth and marriage records. This article will address what are the important financial records, where to keep financial records secure, how long to keep records, and how to create a Grab and Go box.

What are important financial records?

- Household papers – birth certificates, marriage certificates, divorce documents, wills, power of attorney documents
- Ownership documents – deeds, mortgage documents, investment documents, car titles
- Contracts – work related and property related
- Insurance policy numbers, credit card and bank account numbers, passwords

Where to securely keep financial records?

Wallet or Purse – the place to keep documents that may be needed on a regular or immediate basis. The following should be kept in your wallet or purse.

- Driver's license or identification card
- One or two credit cards
- Health insurance or Medicare or Medicaid card, medical information
- Passport and/or citizenship documents

Home Filing System – can be file drawers, file boxes, or a CD or USB drive. Keep the documents updated and destroy documents that are no longer needed. Consider these categories.

- Current files – monthly bank and credit card statements, bills to pay
- Permanent files – Documents to keep indefinitely (insurance policies, ownership documents, etc.)
- Dead storage files – files that are not needed but you want to keep

Safe Deposit Box – used for documents that are difficult or impossible to replace. Consider using a fireproof, waterproof, and burglar proof product. Remember that for a safe deposit box at a financial institution, only the person listed on the account will have access.

How long to keep records?

- Temporarily Items awaiting action (bills).
- One year Documents with a limited life (household budget, bank statements, insurance policies).
- Multiple Years Records for proof of payments or transactions, tax returns (3-6 years or longer), title of car until sold, receipts for home improvements until house is sold, deeds until property is sold or transferred.
- Indefinitely Payment or original records that do not change (birth certificates, marriage license).
- Record Location List Keep a list of where records are kept. It is a good practice to keep one copy of the list in home files, one copy in a safe, and share with a trusted family member where the list is kept.

Creating a 'grab-and-go' box

A Grab and Go Box is a file that contains important documents that may be needed in an emergency or disaster, such as a flood, fire or another natural disaster. Having a Grab and Go Box will help a family rebuild if records are destroyed and provide access to important family information.

Items that should be included in a Grab and Go Box are:

- Prescriptions for both medical and eyeglasses
- Insurance policies and cards
- Copy of the front and back of credit cards so you have the contact information for the company
- Cash or traveler's checks
- Immunization records
- Tax forms from the past two years
- A household inventory
- Copy of a will and other estate planning documents
- Copies of birth certificates, marriage license, and property deeds/titles

Storage

Store the box in an accessible location, such as near the front door. Make sure all family members know what records are in the box and where it is located. The container should be durable and waterproof.