

**IRWIN COUNTY EXTENSION AGRICULTURE NEWS - Vol. 22 Fri. May, 21, 2021****Phillip Edwards Irwin County Extension Coordinator**

*In this issue: Recent, Stink Bug in Corn, Scout Schools, Beginner Pecan Course, Row Crop Disease, Dicamba Update, UPW and Paraquat Training, GA-FL Tobacco Tour, Production Guides and Other Information, Hay Baleage/Corn Silage and Storage, Spiderwort in Cotton and Peanut, Residual Herbicide Value, Scouting Thrips in Cotton, Pecan Nut Casebearer,*

**Recent**

Welcome Kaleb Bell (left) our UGA Summer Intern



Cotton field visit with Jeremy Dill



Planter calibration with Eric Fletcher

**Stink Bug in Corn**

I want to share a quick thought/reminder with you as the corn season progresses with regards to stink bug issues in corn. While I have not heard any reports of major stink bug problems this year it is always only a day or two away. For those of you in southwest and southeast Georgia the majority of your corn is in what I would call the critical stages for stink bug damage potential. From the approximately V10 to R1 growth stages stink bug feeding on the ear will damage the entire ear and can significantly affect yield if pressure is high enough. This is the stage where the ear has not yet or just beginning to emerge from the leaf sheath. When the developing ear is just below the leaf sheath even a single feeding incident can permanently deform the entire ear, reducing overall kernel count of the ear, or even cause the ear to die shortly after emerging from the leaf sheath. Once the ear has emerged and pollination has begun stink bug damage will only affect the individual kernels that are fed on and damage potential to overall yield is decreased. If you have any questions regarding control thresholds and/or options you may find these answers in the pest management handbook or the corn production guide and you can always reach out to myself.

**Cotton, Peanut, and Soybean Insect Scout Schools****Roberts**

Insect scouting schools will be conducted on June 7, 2021 in Tifton and June 15, 2021 in Midville. Crops to be covered include cotton, peanuts, and soybean. These programs offer basic information on insect pest identification and damage, natural enemies, and scouting procedures. The training will serve as an introduction to insect monitoring for new scouts and as a review for experienced scouts and producers. Program topics include, Bug and Larval Insect Pests, Beneficial Insects, Scouting Procedures, Safety, and an In-Field Review. Each program will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 12:30 p.m.

The Tifton Scout School on June 7, 2021 will also be offered online using Zoom. Click the link below if you would like to participate in the virtual training.

<https://zoom.us/j/99567481742?pwd=dGxpeDhsMVNBcWVMWmg3QVRWQlZSzz09>

**Beginner's Pecan Course****Wells**

Good news! The University of Georgia Pecan Team will be holding its Beginner's Pecan Course on June 15, 2021 in-person at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center in Tifton, Georgia. This course is held every other year and covers all you need to know about pecan production including production costs, cultivar selection, fertilization, irrigation, cultural management, insect, disease, and weed control, equipment, and market overview. The event is a day long course from 8:30 am-4:00 pm with morning and afternoon

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refreshment breaks and lunch served on-site sponsored by Savage Equipment. Pesticide credits will be available. Click [here](#) to register. Please pre-register at the website so that we can get a head count for the meal. There is a registration fee to offset the cost of the program. There is no charge for county agent registration. The upcoming days will bring hot temperatures. Hot and dry temperatures later in the season can reduce risk to leaf spot disease of peanut and cotton, but early in season, very hot temperatures can increase concern for:

1. Aspergillus crown rot on peanut
2. Early-season outbreaks of white mold on peanut
3. Southern corn rust can develop more quickly when temperatures are very hot. (NOTE: Southern corn rust has NOT been found in Georgia yet this year. Asian soybean rust HAS BEEN FOUND in Grady and Telfair Counties.
4. NOTE: IF weather is dry and irrigation is not available, granular products like AgLogic may not be sufficiently activated which could impact efficacy for early season nematode control.

Dr. Tim Brenneman and I have drafted and attached an update on early-season disease management concerns in peanut given the reality of what's about to happen. Please feel free to share with your growers. You know it's fixing to get "real" when I do three things. 1) Create a Word Document. 2) Use spell-and-grammar check, and 3) Call upon Dr. Brenneman or Dr. Culbreath to double-check me.

### **Row Crop Disease Update                      Kemerait and Brenneman**

Over the next week, temperatures in southern Georgia as expected to be near 100 degrees for several days. Such very warm conditions can bring a greater urgency to early-season disease control in the peanut crop with regards to Aspergillus crown rot and white mold. Risk to losses from these diseases can be more severe when conditions are hot early in the season. First, both fungal pathogens (*Aspergillus niger* and *Sclerotium rolfsii*) thrive in warm environments. Second, hot soils (temperatures well above 100 degrees) will scorch the young seedlings just below soil surface, creating wounds that can be exploited by the *A. niger* pathogen, increasing risk to Aspergillus crown rot. This has also been shown to be a factor with Diplodia collar rot which can also be an issue on peanuts both early and later in the season in Georgia. Diplodia is often seedborne, and the good growing conditions for last years seed should help minimize that problem for this years crop. Lastly, lesser corn stalk borers are often more problematic in hot and dry soils; lesser corn stalk borers also increase the risk to Aspergillus crown rot.

#### Who is at most risk to Aspergillus crown rot?

From above, Aspergillus crown rot is more of a threat during early-season periods of hot and dry weather. Once the tap-root of the peanut plant "hardens off" and becomes less succulent, the peanut plant is less susceptible to this disease. Aspergillus crown rot occurs more commonly in non-irrigated fields where irrigation cannot be used to cool the soil; Aspergillus crown rot also occurs more commonly where poor seed quality is an issue.

#### Management of Aspergillus crown rot

1. Use high quality seed. Saved- seed may be at increased risk to Aspergillus crown rot.
2. Use a good fungicide seed treatment (preferably Rancona over Dynasty PD specifically for Aspergillus crown rot).
3. Consider use of an in-furrow fungicide. Azoxystrobin is more effective on Rhizoctonia seedling disease and less effective against Aspergillus crown rot. Products that contain fluopyram (Velum and Propulse) have better activity against Aspergillus crown rot than does azoxystrobin.
4. Take steps to control lesser corn stalk borers.
5. When available, use irrigation to reduce threat from Aspergillus crown rot. Growers sometimes fear that irrigation will spread the disease, but in reality there is little if any "in field" spread. Irrigation to reduce stress on the plant and help them develop as quickly as possible is a positive step toward control. It also helps reduce damage from lesser corn stalk borers.

#### Who is most at risk to early-season outbreaks of White mold?

Hot soil temperatures early in the growing season predispose the peanut crop to white mold even before a foliar canopy has developed. Early season white mold can be identified by white, thread-like fungal growths along the developing taproot of the peanut plant and subsequent wilt and death. Early-season threat from white mold may also be more problematic in conservation tillage than in conventional tillage as the sclerotia that initiate infection are more likely to be in the upper few inches of the soil surface. Obviously, growers who plant peanuts on short rotations (every year or every other year) are at risk to early-season outbreaks.

#### Management of early-season white mold (when appropriate)

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1. Apply Proline fungicide in a concentrated band (6 inches for single rows and 10 inches for twin rows) 3-5 weeks after emergence.
2. Include a fungicide effective against white mold in the 30 and 45 days after planting broadcast applications instead of chlorothalonil only (which has no activity on white mold). For example, Priaxor and Lucento have both shown activity on white mold when applied during that spray timing for leaf spot.
3. Use of Proline as an in-furrow application at planting may have some benefit, though limited, in the management of early-season white mold.

### Dicamba Update

Commissioner Gary Black and Dr. Stanley Culpepper went to the EPA in a hard-fought battle to obtain a Georgia state label for Dicamba however they were unsuccessful this year. They are very optimistic about receiving a state label next year, but we must follow the federal dicamba label for this year. On a positive note, the EPA was very impressed with how our UPW training correlates to limited/if any off-target herbicide cases. Bottom line is that you must follow the federal label and as of right now UPW trainings are still every year. We will be submitting a 24C label later this year to try and get it changed to every other year. Cotton cut off day is July 30 and 240ft buffer remains.

### UPW and Paraquat Training

If you still have not attended a UPW training and will be applying Dicamba (Auxin chemistries) to your cotton or soybeans then you **must** watch this training session at our office. You will get 2 hours credit. Call ahead and come and watch the training and we will get your credit submitted. Don't forget that paraquat training is also mandatory if you will use this product. You can take the Paraquat Training at the following link: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/paraquat-dichloride-training-certified-applicators>.

### The Georgia – Florida Tobacco Tour will be conducted June 7 – 9, 2021 Moore

Please see the information at the link below for the UGA Tobacco Website <https://tobacco.caes.uga.edu/tours/2021-ga-fl-tobacco-tour.html> which provides the initial information on tour schedule and registration. Please register from the website and return to the site prior to the tour for more detailed information on the tour schedule and directions. Make your own hotel reservations using the telephone numbers provided by May 18, 2021 with reference to the "Tobacco Tour" block of rooms in Tifton. Rooms in Waycross are not blocked.

### 2021 Production Guides/Emergency Contacts and Calibration Cards Available at our Office.

When you visit our office please pick up the new production guides for Cotton, Corn and Peanut while they last on our front table. We have laminated irrigation scheduling guide for our row crops. We also have plenty of calibration cards and emergency cards (similar to credit card size) for you to have and keep in your wallet. Also, please remember you can access both the Georgia Pesticide Handbook 2021 Commercial Edition and Georgia Pest Management Handbook 2021 Home and Garden Edition here <https://extension.uga.edu/programs-services/integrated-pest-management/publications/handbooks.html> Scroll down for complete listings for each.

### Hay and Baleage Virtual Short Course May 28<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to Noon/Corn Silage and Stored Forage Baxter

Need more pesticide credits? Here's your opportunity. These events are free but pre-registration is required. Register by scanning the code on the flyer or visiting below links. The event is free but pre-registration is required. Producers can register by scanning the code on the flyer below or visiting

Hay and Baleage Virtual Short course on May 28<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 am.

<https://georgiaforages.caes.uga.edu/calendar/event.html?eventid=1762&event=Virtual-Hay-and-Baleage-Shortcourse>

Corn Silage and Stored Forage June 25<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 am.

[https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/.../SV\\_aav6NAc9QrZDYKW](https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/.../SV_aav6NAc9QrZDYKW)

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 May 28, 2021  
9:00 AM - Noon (Eastern)  
Online (via Zoom)

 Free  
Pre-registration is required

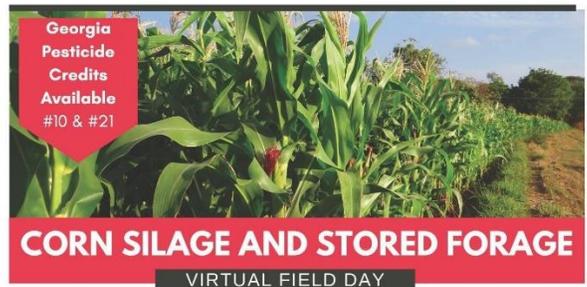
 Scan the QR code to register  
or visit our website  
[www.GeorgiaForages.com](http://www.GeorgiaForages.com)

### Presentations

Adjusting hay equipment  
Lisa Baxter, UGA Extension

New herbicides for forage  
production  
Clay Williams, Corteva Agriscience  
Som Ingram, Corteva Agriscience  
Jason Belcher, Bayer Vegetation Mgt.

Producer insights on  
baleage production  
BJ Marks, GA Hay & Baleage Producer



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[www.GeorgiaForages.com](http://www.GeorgiaForages.com)

### Presentations

**Best planting practices**  
Corey Bryant, UGA Extension

**Disease control options**  
Bob Kemerait, UGA Extension

**Incorporating new precision  
ag technology**  
Simer Virk, UGA Extension

**Weed control options**  
Eric Prostko, UGA Extension

**Hay research update**  
Lisa Baxter, UGA Extension

**Baleage & summer forage  
alternatives**  
Jennifer Tucker, UGA Extension



## Benghal dayflower aka Tropical spiderwort is already up in Cotton!

## Culpepper

Over the past few seasons, tropical spiderwort has regained its status of being a major pest for many Georgia cotton farmers. To control this weed, one must understand the importance of placing residual herbicides strategically throughout the growing season beginning at planting. However, the most important herbicide application may be the last one where an effective residual product must be applied in a manner where it contacts the soil... yes, the best approach by far is to use a layby rig or hooded sprayer applying the herbicide where it needs to go which is not overtop of the crop. Remember this weed can grow in the dark, so the approach of shading it out with the cotton crop is not as effective as it is on many other weeds. Activity of the more commonly used cotton herbicides on spiderwort is discussed below; contact your local county Extension agent for a season-long program approach depending on your choice of technology being grown.

*Consider the following when building a program:*

1. Residual activity from Warrant and Dual Magnum are critical to success; limited data suggests Outlook is also effective.
2. Gramoxone and 2,4-D are very effective controlling emerged plants with timely applications.
3. Dicamba is not overly effective but when mixed with glyphosate and applied sequentially, control of emerged plants is often acceptable depending on the weeds size when the first application is made.
4. Roundup + Staple remains quite effective on emerged plants if they are small.
5. Liberty is not very effective.
6. Layby materials such as diuron + MSMA, glyphosate + diuron, or any mixture with Aim can be quite effective. Remember to include a residual herbicide with the layby application and follow all application requirements

## What about controlling Tropical Spiderwort in Peanut? Prostko

**SUGGESTED HERBICIDE PROGRAMS FOR THE CONTROL OF TROPICAL SPIDERWORT (BENGHAL DAYFLOWER) IN PEANUT\*\*\***

### PROGRAM 1

**a) PRE Immediately After Planting:** Valor at 3 oz/A + Dual Magnum 7.62EC or generic metolachlor (Stalwart, Parallel PCS, Me-Too-Lachlor) at 1 pt/A or Warrant 3ME at 3 pt/A or Outlook 6EC @ 12.8 oz/A and

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**b) POST when spiderwort is 1–2” tall:** Cadre/Impose 2AS at 4 oz/A or Strongarm 84WG at 0.45 oz/A + Dual Magnum 7.62EC or generic metolachlor (Stalwart, Parallel PCS, Me-Too-Lachlor) at 1 pt/A or Warrant 3ME at 3 pt/A or Zidua 4.17SC @ 2.5 oz/A or Anthem Flex 4SC @ 3 oz/A.

**\* At plant applications of Dual/Warrant/Outlook are more effective for TSW/BD control at later peanut planting dates (May 15 or later) because the majority of emergence occurs after June 1.**

**PROGRAM 2**

**a) AT-CRACK (within 28 days after peanut cracking):** Apply paraquat 2SL formulations at 12 oz/A or paraquat 3SL formulations at 8 oz/A Storm 4EC at 16 oz/A or Basagran 4EC @ 8 oz/A + Dual Magnum 7.62EC or generic metolachlor (Stalwart, Parallel PCS, Me-Too-Lachlor) at 1 pt/A or Warrant 3ME at 3 pt/A or Zidua 4.17SC @ 2.5 oz/A or Anthem Flex 4Sc @ 3 oz/A *and*

**b) POST (~2–3 weeks after at-crack spray):** Apply Cadre/Impose 2AS at 4 oz/A or Strongarm 84WG at 0.45 oz/A + Dual Magnum 7.62EC or generic metolachlor (Stalwart, Parallel PCS, Me-Too-Lachlor) at 1 pt/A or Warrant 3ME at 3 pt/A or Zidua 4.17SC @ 2.5 oz/A or Anthem Flex 4SC @ 3 oz/A.

**\* When using Dual Magnum/generics or Outlook in combination with Cadre/Impose, paraquat, or Strongarm, additional spray adjuvants (NIS, COC) are not necessary.**

The maximum amount/A/year of Dual Magnum that can be applied is 2.8 pt/A. The maximum amount/A/year of Stalwart, Parallel PCS, or Me-To-Lachlor that can be applied is 2.66 pt/A.

The maximum amount of Warrant that can be applied PRE + POST is 6 pt/A/year.

Maximum amount of Zidua that can be applied is 4 oz/A/year of 85WG or 6.5 oz/A/year of 4.17SC. When Warrant or Zidua is applied POST, a NIS (0.25% v/v) is needed.

Maximum amount of Outlook that can be applied is 21 oz/A/year. Maximum amount of Anthem Flex that can be applied is 9.12 oz/A/year.

**\*\* Zidua/Anthem Flex should not be applied prior to peanut emergence due to potential injury concerns.**

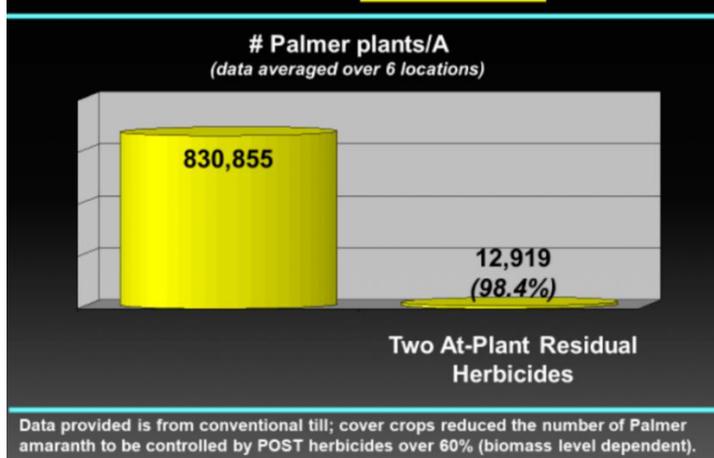
**\*\*\*Twin rows and conventional tillage (plowing) are also useful for the management of tropical spiderwort/ Benghal dayflower.**

(Source: 2021 UGA Pest Management Handbook)

**Value of the at-plant residual herbicide must be understood for family farm sustainability (Stanley Culpepper):**

I had this question from a grower last week about why is it important to use two residual herbicides at cotton planting. Research during 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 showed preemergence (PRE) herbicides, if activated, reduced the number of Palmer amaranth needing to be controlled by postemergence herbicides during the ENTIRE season by over 98% (Fig 1). At-plant applications using two residual herbicides (different chemistries) that are effective on Palmer amaranth are paramount in reducing resistance to topically applied herbicides like Liberty, 2,4-D choline, and dicamba. Additionally, at-plant herbicides should alleviate any potential for early-season weed competition reducing cotton yield. Table 1 defines several preemergence options, but keep in mind that other effective options exist including Cotoran mixtures or preplant incorporated yellow herbicides followed by a PRE herbicide. *Without implementing these residual herbicides at planting, the “life” expectancy of topically applied herbicides for some growers is likely less than three years.*

**Figure 1. Number of Palmer amaranth to kill with POST herbicides for the entire season. 2017-2020.**



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PRE'S	HERBICIDE RATES AND COMMENTS
1) Brake + Reflex	1) Brake at 1 pt/A is an effective rate in mixtures but will require significant rain/irrigation to become fully active.
2) Brake + Warrant	2) Warrant at 32-40 oz/A, for most soils, is in order. Effective on most grasses, pigweeds, and is <u>essential for spiderwort</u> .
3) Direx + Warrant	3) Direx at 10-16 oz/A is needed for most soils; lower rate on sands or under intense irrigation.
4) Reflex + Direx	4) Reflex at 10-12 oz/A is ideal for most soils when used in these mixtures.
5) Reflex + Warrant	<i>NOTE: Add paraquat if Palmer is emerged; jar test to ensure mixing is advised.</i>

Table 1.

### Scouting thrips and supplemental foliar sprays Roberts

Vigor or the rate of seedling growth influences seedling injury from thrips. Thrips initially feed on the underside of cotyledons; damaged cotyledons will appear silvery on the lower surface of cotyledons. The majority of thrips eggs are laid on the cotyledons and it takes about 5-6 days for an egg to hatch. Once a terminal is present thrips will move to and feed on unfurled leaves in the terminal. As the leaves unfurl and expand the characteristic crinkling and malformations become obvious (Figure 1). A rapidly growing seedling may unfurl a true leaf every 3 days where as a seedling which is stressed may take 4-5 days or more to unfurl a new leaf. Again, thrips are feeding on the unfurled leaves so thrips feed for a more extended time on the same unfurled leaf of a slow growing or stressed plant compared with a rapidly growing plant. The same infestation of thrips will create more damage on a slow growing plant.



Figure 1. Crinkling and malformed true leaves are caused by thrips feeding in the terminal bud.

The decision to use a foliar insecticide to supplement at plant insecticides for thrips control should be based on **scouting**. Scout thrips by randomly pulling a seedling and “slapping” the seedling against a piece of paper or box to dislodge the thrips (Figure 2). There will likely be sand and other debris on the paper. Thrips will begin to move within a few seconds and will cling to the paper

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whereas sand and other debris will slide when you tilt the paper. Count the number of thrips per plant after each sample. Be observant for immature thrips when making counts. Immature thrips are wingless and crème colored (Figure 3). Adult thrips are usually brownish or almost black in appearance and have wings (depends on species, tobacco thrips is the most common thrips species infesting cotton and adults will be dark brown or black).



*Figure 2. Sample thrips by slapping a seedling on a white piece of paper or box to dislodge thrips.*

Do this on several plants and determine the average number of thrips per plant. The threshold for thrips is 2-3 thrips per plant with immatures present. The presence of numerous immature thrips suggests that the at-plant insecticide is no longer providing acceptable control (i.e. thrips eggs laid on the plant, eggs hatched, and immature thrips are surviving).

Foliar insecticide options include the systemic insecticides Orthene, Bidrin, and dimethoate. Note that these products are systemic. Pyrethroids will not provide acceptable control thrips in cotton.



Figure 3. Immature thrips are crème colored and wingless (bottom). Adults are brownish with wings (top). Image by Jack T. Reed, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org

Below are results from the NC State Thrips Prediction Model for Moultrie, GA assuming a planting date of May 13, 2021.

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Output Calculated for **31.18,-83.83** and Selected Planting Date **May 13, 2021**



Predicted risk of thrips injury for the selected location compared across planting dates within the current 2021 season. Because the scale is normalized within the current year, the predicted risk for a series of potential planting dates ranges from least (dark green) to highest (dark red), regardless of whether the current year's risk is high or low relative to prior years. By considering the relative risk predictions displayed in this figure and the risk predictions over the current and prior five years displayed in the preceding figure, the current years risk predictions can be placed in the context of the preceding five years. Specific planting dates are displayed by dragging the pointer across the figure. The arrow on the vertical scale at the right points to the predicted risk for the selected date. Predicted risk is based on predicted weather, for dates in the future. An abrupt change in weather (for example a cold snap) will change the predictions appreciably. Check your local weather forecast using the button below:

NWS Forecast for Selected Location

**2021 Pecan Nut Casebearer Monitoring Sawyer**

UGA Extension agents, USDA collaborators and pecan growers across 14 pecan-growing counties in Georgia are monitoring for pecan nut casebearer again this year. We started on April 12th using pheromone-baited traps (Figure 1). Agents and entomologists are checking traps each day until moths are captured for two consecutive days. The first date of consistent captures is what we refer to as the biofix date. With a high crop load last year, we did not recommend spraying for nut casebearers as they help in thinning out the crop. This year's crop will likely be much lighter and may benefit from spraying. We still only spray after scouting for presence of eggs and larvae on nutlets. For those with previous infestations and for those who choose to spray for prophylactic reasons, the best time to spray – using caterpillar materials such as Intrepid, Intrepid Edge and Dimilin – is **10-14 days after onset of sustained moth activity**. The initial (biofix) dates of regular moth flight activity across all these sites are reported via an online map along with the spray decision window – find out more here <https://pecan.agpestmonitor.org/>



## Pecan Nut Casebearer

- There are 2-4 PNC generations per year
- 1<sup>st</sup> generation
- 2<sup>nd</sup> generation: occurs in mid-summer
- 3<sup>rd</sup> generation: feed on shucks if shells have hardened
- 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> generation: larvae do not feed but build a hibernaculum at the base of a dormant bud and overwinter. Next spring, larvae emerge and feed by tunneling in shoots. They pupate in shoots or bark crevices. Moths emerge to lay eggs on outlets.



Figure 1

*As always for more information please contact your Irwin County Extension Office at 468-7409.*

*Thank You, God Bless You,  
Phillip Edwards - Irwin County Agent*



*The mention of trade names in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the Georgia Extension Service, nor criticism of similar ones not mentioned.*

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