



Hopkins Pesticide Newsletter

Pesticide Applicators Updates

Fall 2018

Mario A. Villarino DVM, Ph.D. CEA-Ag/NR

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE
EXTENSION SERVICE-
HOPKINS COUNTY

Welcome fall!

A tremendous amount of activity faced our first weeks on the fall. Beginning with an extraordinary drought that hindered hundreds of acres of hay during the summer followed by army worms for several weeks. Hay and cattle producers certainly had a challenging time this fall (and many still have challenges). Many producers were forced to sell cattle earlier than planned to alleviate hay shortages which caused higher numbers of cattle at local sale barns. This fall, the fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda*, a common pest of bermudagrass, sorghum, corn, wheat and rye grass and many other crops in north and central Texas appeared in big numbers. Larvae of fall armyworms are green, brown or black with white to yellowish lines running from head to tail. A distinct white line between the eyes forms an inverted “Y” pattern on the face. Four black spots aligned in a square on the top of the segment near the back end of the caterpillar are also characteristic. Armyworms are very small (1/8 inch) at first, cause little plant damage and as a result often go unnoticed. Larvae feed for 2-3 weeks and full grown larvae are about 1 to 1 1/2 inches long. Given their immense appetite, great numbers, and marching ability, fall armyworms can damage entire fields or pastures in a few days. On this newsletter, I develop more information related to insecticides common against armyworms with the hope that you become better prepared during insect outbreaks.

Respectfully,
Dr. Mario Villarino
CEA- Ag NR- Hopkins

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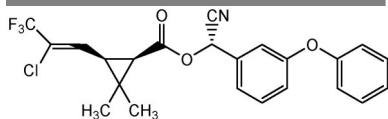
Herbicide Update

A newly developed fertilizer system will provide nutrition to engineered cotton crops worldwide and a deadly dose to weeds that are increasingly herbicide resistant, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Research study. The new system applies phosphite to cotton crops engineered to express a certain gene — a gene that makes cotton able to process the phosphite into nutrition while the same compound suppresses weeds that are unable to use it, researchers said.

“Our researchers here at Texas A&M AgriLife have addressed an issue that costs producers billions of dollars,” said Dr. Patrick Stover, vice chancellor of agriculture and life sciences at Texas A&M in College Station and AgriLife Research acting director. “This is an economical, environmentally safe and sustainable solution.

Stover said this is an exciting and timely discovery in the movement to get ahead of the ongoing problem of weeds evolving faster than the chemicals and other methods developed to control them.

“We believe the ptxD/phosphite system we have developed is one of the most promising technologies of recent times that can help solve many of the biotechnological, agricultural and environmental problems we encounter,” said Dr. Keerti Rathore, an AgriLife Research plant biotechnologist in College Station.



Know your insecticides:

Lambda-cyhalothrin is a synthetic pyrethroid insecticide and acaricide. It is used to control pests like aphids and butterfly larvae. It is applied to crops such as cotton and ornamentals. Lambda-cyhalothrin can also be used for structural pest management or in public health applications to control insects such as cockroaches, mosquitoes, ticks, and flies, which can act as disease vectors. As a Restricted Use Pesticide, lambda-cyhalothrin can only be purchased and used by certified applicators. Since it is in EPA (*Environmental Protection Agency*) Toxicity Class II, products containing lambda-cyhalothrin must bear the signal word WARNING. Lambda-cyhalothrin appears as a colorless solid, and it is available as an emulsifiable concentrate, a wettable powder, or a ULV liquid. It is commonly mixed with buprofezin, pirimicarb, dimethoate, or tetramethrin. Lambda-cyhalothrin is compatible with a lot of other insecticides and fungicides.



Mario Villarino

HOPKINS
PESTICIDE
NEWSLETTER

Dr. Mario A.
Villarino
CEA - Ag/NR
Hopkins County
Texas

Up-Coming Events

- **Field Day for Producers and Grassland Managers. Oct 26, 2018. Free. Lunch Provided.**
- **Dairy Outreach Dairy Fall Conference. 4 DOPA Credits. Southwest Dairy Museum in Sulphur Springs, October 31, 2018. Free Lunch . \$10.**
- **Private Applicator Credits. November 7, 2018. \$30. 5 CEU. Regional Civic Center, Sulphur Springs, Texas.**