

Lawrence County Producers:

I have received the first report of armyworms in Lawrence County this afternoon in the Leoma area. They were found in a pasture next to some soybeans. Folks with pastures, hayfields and soybeans need to be on high alert and looking for signs of armyworms for the next couple of weeks. They really like tender warm season annuals like crabgrass, teffgrass, bermudagrass and soybeans.

Armyworms feed mainly late in the evening and during the night or early morning. If you are scouting during mid-day look for them to be “hiding” under debris in the field. They can have up to four generations each year. The larvae stage of Armyworms last about three weeks. But they do most of their feeding damage in the last 4-5 days before pupating. Moths can emerge in about 10 days after pupating. A female moth can lay from 1000 to 2000 eggs. These eggs then hatch in about a week to 10 days.

Below is information from the utcrops news blog (1), the 2024 Insect Control Recommendations for Field Crops (2), Auburn info on management in pastures and hay fields (3) and the UT insecticide recommendations for pastures infected with armyworms (4).

If you have any questions please contact the Extension Office at 931-762-5506.

1. <https://news.utcrops.com/2024/07/fall-armyworms-in-double-cropped-soybeans/> - July 12 article on the UTCrops news blog titled *Fall Armyworms in Double Cropped Soybeans*
2. <https://utia.tennessee.edu/publications/wp-content/uploads/sites/269/2023/12/PB1768.pdf> - 2024 Insect Control Recommendations for Field Crops
3. <https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/farming/management-of-fall-armyworm-in-pastures-and-hayfields/> Auburn Extension - Management of Fall Armyworm in Pastures and Hayfields
4. UT Insecticide Recommendations for Armyworms in Pastures from the 2024 Insect Control Recommendations for Field Crops

Suggestions for Chemical Control of Pasture Insects			
Insects	Insecticide (Trade Names)	Rate per Acre	Restrictions/Comments*
Armyworms or Grasshoppers	carbaryl (Sevin XLR Plus 4)	32 - 48 oz	Must remove cattle. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest or grazing. Other Sevin formulations are also available.
Armyworms	chlorantraniliprole (Vantacor 5 SC)	0.9 - 1.1 oz	0 day application restriction for forage or hay.
Armyworms, Bermudagrass Stem Maggot, Grasshoppers	chlorantraniliprole, λ -cyhalothrin (Besiege, premix)	6 - 10 oz	Do not apply within seven days of harvest; 0 day application restriction for grazing.
Grasshoppers	diflubenzuron (Dimilin 2L)	2 oz	Allow one day after treatment before cutting for hay. Apply when grasshoppers are small.
Armyworms or Grasshoppers	malathion (malathion 57E)	32 oz	Must remove cattle. Allow spray to dry before harvest or grazing.
Armyworms	methomyl (Lannate 2.4LV)	12 - 24 oz	Bermudagrass only. Must remove cattle. Do not apply within three days of harvest or seven days of grazing.
Armyworms	methoxyfenozide (Intrepid 2F)	4 - 8 oz	Do not apply within seven days of harvest; 0 day application restriction for grazing.
Armyworms	spinosad (Blackhawk 36% WDG)	1.1 - 2.2 oz	Do not apply within three days of harvest; 0 day restriction for grazing.

Suggestions for Chemical Control of Pasture Insects			
Insects	Insecticide (Trade Names)	Rate per Acre	Restrictions/Comments*
Armyworms, Bermudagrass Stem Maggot, Grasshoppers	β -cyfluthrin (Baythroid XL 1)**	1.6 - 1.9 oz	Use highest rate for grasshoppers; Do not apply within seven days of harvest; 0 day application restriction for grazing.
Armyworms, Bermudagrass Stem Maggot, Grasshoppers	λ -cyhalothrin (Warrior II 2.08)**	1.3 - 1.9 oz	Do not apply within 7 days of harvest; 0 day application restriction for grazing.
Armyworms, Bermudagrass Stem Maggot, Grasshoppers	Z-cypermethrin (Mustang Maxx 0.8)**	2.8 - 4 oz	0 day application restriction for forage or hay.

*See insecticide labels for complete list of pests controlled, restrictions and comments.

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