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Cooperative
**ECONOMIC INSECT
REPORT**

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AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

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ECONOMIC INSECT SURVEY AND DETECTION

The Cooperative Economic Insect Report is issued weekly as a service to American Agriculture. Its contents are compiled from information supplied by cooperating State, Federal, and industrial entomologists and other agricultural workers. In releasing this material the Division serves as a clearing house and does not assume responsibility for accuracy of the material.

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COOPERATIVE ECONOMIC INSECT REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS

Current Conditions

SPOTTED ALFALFA APHID heavy in limited areas on alfalfa in Arizona. (p. 905).

Heavy overwintering PINK BOLLWORM populations in several areas of Texas. (p. 907).

Detection

For new county record see page 908.

The reports in this issue are for the week ending December 19 unless otherwise indicated.

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WEATHER OF THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 22

HIGHLIGHTS: In the West, rains continued along the coast with snow at higher elevations. The Northeast was cool, cloudy, and snowy. The Southeast was cool, becoming rainy in the latter part of the week.

PRECIPITATION: Moderate to heavy rain fell along the northern and middle Pacific coast and the nearby interior valleys with snow in the nearby mountains on most days. Rains along the coast were accompanied by winds which in some areas gusted to 50 m.p.h., or more. The snow depth left over 5 feet at Mount Baker Lodge, Washington. Little precipitation occurred on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains and the western Great Plains. Strong winds raised clouds of dust in local areas in eastern Colorado. Mostly light precipitation fell in the Great Plains. Snow began early in the week in the Northeast with daily occurrences in some areas. Totals ranged widely but some areas from Wisconsin and Indiana to New England received 5 to 12 inches. Rain or drizzle occurred in the Southeast mostly late in the week. Totals exceeded 1 inch from Louisiana to Georgia, but were mostly less than 1 inch elsewhere in the Southeast.

TEMPERATURES: In general, clear skies and light temperatures prevailed from the Great Basin to the Mississippi River. Much of the Great Basin averaged 9° to 12° warmer than normal. This was the seventh consecutive mild week in Montana. Temperatures turned sharply colder in the northeast where most days were cloudy. Concord, New Hampshire, averaged 20° colder than the previous week. A large area from the Ohio River to the mid-Atlantic coast averaged 6° to 10° cooler than normal. Cool days and cool nights continued in the Southeast where clear skies prevailed early in the week, followed by partly cloudy to cloudy weather. (Summary supplied by Environmental Data Service, ESSA).

SPECIAL INSECTS OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

CORN EARWORM (Heliothis zea) - ARIZONA - Averaging 30 per 100 sweeps on Yuma County alfalfa. (Ariz. Coop. Sur.).

GREENBUG (Schizaphis graminum) - NEW MEXICO - Ranged 0-1 per linear foot, except 1 field where counts ranged 14-18 per linear foot, in barley in Chaves County. (Mathews). TEXAS - Ranged per linear foot by county December 16: Armstrong 0-5; Childress, Collingsworth, Donley, Randall 0-10; and Hall 100-200. Braconids fairly heavy in Childress County. Braconids in counties north of Childress County noticeably fewer than those in southern counties. Large numbers of green lacewing larvae in Childress County. (Daniels). OKLAHOMA - Greenbug counts lower for past 10 days on wheat in southwest and west-central areas except in scattered locations. Ranged 300-600 per linear foot in Caddo and Washita Counties. Counts of 35 per linear foot on barley in Tillman County and 20 per linear foot on rye in Caddo County. (Okla. Coop. Sur.).

CORN LEAF APHID (Rhopalosiphum maidis) - NEW MEXICO - Remains light; averaged less than 1 per linear foot of small grain in Chaves County. (Mathews).

SPOTTED ALFALFA APHID (Therioaphis maculata) - ARIZONA - Averaged 1,200 and 1,850 per 100 sweeps in 2 alfalfa fields on the Yuma Mesa, Yuma County. (Ariz. Coop. Sur.). MISSOURI - Averaged 8 per 10 sweeps in Scott and Stoddard Counties. (Munson). FLORIDA - Nymphs and adults ranged 500-550 in 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Gainesville, Alachua County, December 15, compared to 850-900 on November 25. (Mead).

SMALL GRAINS

AN APHID (Rhopalosiphum padi) - OKLAHOMA - Ranged 300-500 per linear foot in rye in Caddo County, and 0-50 per linear foot in wheat in Caddo and Washita Counties. Averaged 10 per linear foot on wheat in Payne County. (Okla. Coop. Sur.).

WINTER GRAIN MITE (Penthaleus major) - OKLAHOMA - Still heavy on small grain in Cotton County. Averaged 20 per linear foot in barley in Tillman County. (Okla. Coop. Sur.).

FORAGE LEGUMES

EGYPTIAN ALFALFA WEEVIL (Hypera brunneipennis) - ARIZONA - Averaged 40 adults per 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Yuma, Yuma County. (Ariz. Coop. Sur.).

SPOTTED CUCUMBER BEETLE (Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi) - FLORIDA - Seven adults in 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Gainesville, Alachua County, December 15. (Mead).

TARNISHED PLANT BUG (Lygus lineolaris) - FLORIDA - Five adults in 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Gainesville, Alachua County, December 15, compared to 100 adults on November 25. (Mead).

THREE-CORNERED ALFALFA HOPPER (Spissistilus festinus) - FLORIDA - Eight adults in 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Gainesville, Alachua County, December 15, compared to 11 adults on November 25. (Mead).

A PLANT BUG (Taylorilygus pallidulus) - FLORIDA - Nymphs and adults 10 in 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Gainesville, Alachua County, December 15, compared to total of 61 November 25. (Mead).

PEA APHID (Acyrtosiphon pisum) - TEXAS - Medium to heavy on alfalfa below Caprock. (Daniels). MISSOURI - Ranged 5-200 (averaged 40) per 10 sweeps on south-eastern area alfalfa. (Munson).

POTATOES, TOMATOES, PEPPERS

TUBER FLEA BEETLE (Epitrix tuberis) - CALIFORNIA - Collected on tomato at Fort Jones, Siskiyou County, during 1969. Determined by T.N. Seeno. Currently found on potatoes at Klamath River and Hornbrook in Siskiyou County, and at Crescent City, Fort Dick, and Smith River in Del Norte County. Del Norte is new county record. (Cal. Coop. Rpt.). See CEIR 18(49):1097 for first report in State. (PPD).

GENERAL VEGETABLES

GREEN PEACH APHID (Myzus persicae) - MARYLAND - Infestations in 200 acres of spinach remain light near Vienna, Dorchester County. (U. Md., Ent. Dept.).

A SNAIL (Helix pomatia) - FLORIDA - Delimiting surveys revealed total of 7 properties infested in Dade County. (PPD).

CITRUS

BROWN SOFT SCALE (Coccus hesperidum) - ARIZONA - Heavy on several trees in 10-acre lemon grove on Yuma Mesa, Yuma County. Many fruit discolored. (Ariz. Coop. Sur.).

FOREST AND SHADE TREES

WESTERN PINE BEETLE (Dendroctonus brevicomis) - CALIFORNIA - Ponderosa and Jeffrey pine trees in Lassen National Forest, struck by lightning, currently show 30+ trees infested in one-half acre area. Salvage of dead and infested trees planned. (Gottschall, USFS).

MAN AND ANIMALS

SCREW-WORM (Cochliomyia hominivorax) - One case reported in U.S. December 14-20, as follows: TEXAS - Comal County. Total of 76 laboratory-confirmed cases reported in portion of Barrier Zone in Republic of Mexico December 7-13 as follows: Sonora 60, Chihuahua 10, Nuevo Leon 2, Tamaulipas 4. Total of 4 cases reported in Mexico south of Barrier Zone. Barrier Zone is area where eradication operation underway to prevent establishment of self-sustaining population in U.S. Sterile screw-worm flies released: Texas 2,568,000; Mexico 105,360,000. (Anim. Health Div.).

COMMON CATTLE GRUB (Hypoderma lineatum) - OKLAHOMA - Heavy on cattle in Cotton County, and light in Cleveland County. (Okla. Coop. Sur.).

MOSQUITOES - TEXAS - Aedes sollicitans (salt-marsh mosquito) heaviest flight of 1969 noted in coastal marshes during November. Culex salinarius occurred in large numbers along Pleasure Island and central Jefferson County. (Jefferson County Mosq. Cont. Dist.).

STORED PRODUCTS

CONFUSED FLOUR BEETLE (Tribolium confusum) - ALABAMA - This species and Tribolium castaneum (red flour beetle) heavier than usual in stored grains, and probably more damaging than rice weevil. (Barwood, Ponder).

CIGARETTE BEETLE (Lasioderma serricorne) - TENNESSEE - Infested cornmeal in Johnson County. Controls applied. (Williams).

BENEFICIAL INSECTS

CONVERGENT LADY BEETLE (Hippidamia convergens) - ALABAMA - During warm periods adults feeding on aphids in crimson clover and rye grass-mixed plantings in Lee County. (Barwood, Ponder).

A FLOWER BUG (Orius insidiosus) - FLORIDA - Ten adults in 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Gainesville, Alachua County, December 15, compared to 3 on November 25. (Mead).

A DAMSEL BUG (Nabis sp.) - FLORIDA - Fifteen adults in 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Gainesville, Alachua County, December 15, compared to 6 adults November 25. (Mead).

A GREEN LACEWING (Chrysopa sp.) - FLORIDA - Seven adults in 100 sweeps of alfalfa at Gainesville, Alachua County, December 15, compared to 5 adults November 25. (Mead).

FEDERAL AND STATE PLANT PROTECTION PROGRAMS

BOLL WEEVIL (Anthonomus grandis) - TEXAS - Adult populations remain low throughout control zone compared to previous years. (PPD South. Reg. Nov.).

MEXICAN FRUIT FLY (Anastrepha ludens) - CALIFORNIA - Recoveries of marked specimens continue reduced. In 1969 recovered 339 marked flies, no native. ARIZONA - Trapping underway this period in Yuma County. (PPD West. Reg., Nov.). TEXAS - Citrus movement increased to California, Arizona, and Oregon in November. Surveys negative in 10 southern counties. (PPD South. Reg., Nov.).

PINK BOLLWORM (Pectinophora gossypiella) - CALIFORNIA - Sterile moth recoveries for 1969 by county as follows: Kern 564 (5 native), Riverside 22,199 (337,796 native), Imperial none (13,922 native), San Bernadino none (172 native), San Diego 14,207 (16,440 native); totals 36,970 (368,335 native.) ARIZONA - Sterile moth releases ended this period at Redington, Pima County; total of 1,580,605 moths released. (PPD West. Reg., Nov.). NEW MEXICO - Lint cleaner inspections in southeastern area indicated populations heaviest at Otis, followed by Malaga and Loving area, with Artesia lightest area in Eddy County. Fewest found on lint cleaners in Chaves County. Very few found in Lea and Roosevelt Counties. (Bauer). TEXAS - Light, overwintering populations found in Reeves, Foard, and Pecos Counties. Heavy overwintering populations in Midland and Martin Counties. About 70-80 percent of larvae in bolls on stalks killed by cold temperatures in Midland County. (Neeb, Dec. 12). OKLAHOMA - Larva averages per bale by area as follows: South-central 300; north-central 105; east-central 60. Numbers in south-central area ranged as high as 843 per bale. (Okla. Coop. Sur.).

PISTACHIO SEED CHALCID (Megastigmus pistaciae) - CALIFORNIA - Total of 20 locations infested in Chico, Butte County. None found since November 7. (PPD).

SWEETPOTATO WEEVIL (Cylas formicarius elegantulus) - ALABAMA - Surveys negative in Butler, Conecuh, Escambia, and Monroe Counties; 9 properties infested in Mobile County. GEORGIA - Infested 1 new property in Grady County. MISSISSIPPI - Infested 27 new properties in 14 counties. SOUTH CAROLINA - One weevil found on 1 property in Horry County. (PPD South. Reg., Nov.).

WEST INDIAN SUGARCANE ROOT BORER (Diaprepes abbreviatus) - FLORIDA - One specimen recovered in 1 grove of 55 acres within regulated area. (PPD South. Reg., Nov.).

DETECTION

New County Record - TUBER FLEA BEETLE (Epitrix tuberis) - CALIFORNIA - Del Norte (p. 906).

LIGHT TRAP COLLECTIONS

FLORIDA - Gainesville, BL, 12/13-18 - Armyworm (Pseudaletia unipuncta) 5, black cutworm (Agrotis ipsilon) 8, granulate cutworm (Feltia subterranea) 9.

CORRECTIONS

CEIR 19(14):251 - An ITCH MITE (Sarcoptes scabiei bovis) should be An ITCH MITE (Sarcoptes bovis).

CEIR 19(33):649 - Pulex simulans should be Pulex irritans.

CEIR 19(48):856 - a HELIODINID MOTH (Schrecksteinia festaliella) should be a HELIODINID MOTH (Schrecksteinia festaliella).

CEIR 19(51):895, 897, 899 - TUBER FLEA BEETLE (Epitrix tuberis) - Delete note on page 897, and entry under new State records on page 899. See page 906 of this issue for corrected report.

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