



Historical Average Growing Degree-Days Accumulated Since March 1. (Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service)

Growing degree days from March 1 through August 29 were: Base¹ Juneau SOUTHEAST Waukesha Hartford Racine Milwaukee EAST CENTRAL Appleton Green Bay CENTRAL **Big** Flats Hancock Port Edwards WEST CENTRAL LaCrosse Eau Claire NORTHWEST Cumberland Bayfield NORTH CENTRAL Wausau Medford NORTHEAST Crivitz Crandon

¹Data from Bill Bland et. al., Soil Science, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison. GDD (Growing Degree-Days) are synonymous with degree-days above modified base 50°F, with no low temperature below 50°F or above 86°F used in calculation. See map for Historical Average Growing Degree Days.

118

<u>CORN</u>

European Corn Borer – Numerous 4^{th} and early 5^{th} instar larvae were found tunneling and feeding in mature corn ears in fields surveyed in the southwest. Several 40-84% infestations were encountered in the same region. Heavy infestations such as these may result in ear drop and stalk breakage before harvest

Levels of infestation were significantly lower in fields surveyed in the North, ranging from 10-20% in Shawano and Outagamie Cos. The annual fall **European corn borer** survey is scheduled to begin next week. Though it is still too early to say with certainty, preliminary survey findings show this year's population is likely to be considerably higher than in recent years.

Corn Earworm – Numbers of moths in blacklight and pheromone traps are still gradually increasing. Female **corn earworm** moths are expected to continue laying eggs during the next 2-4 weeks, so growers are encouraged to monitor sweet corn for at least a few more weeks.

FORAGES

Potato Leafhopper – Counts averaged 0.4 to 1.6 per sweep in 12-16 inch alfalfa in Richland, Crawford, Sauk and Iowa Cos. In the northeast counts were slightly lower, ranging from 0.3 to 0.9 in alfalfa of the same height. Counts were low in the east central district as well, and in two of the fields surveyed no adults **potato leafhoppers** were detected. Additionally, no nymphs were observed in any of the alfalfa fields surveyed.

Plant Bugs – A large proportion of nymphs collected in sweep nets indicates **plant bug** reproduction has not yet slowed. Light amounts of **plant bug** feeding injury was observed in Richland and Crawford Co. alfalfa fields, where counts averaged 1.9 to 4.6 **plant bugs** adults and nymphs per sweep in 12-16 inch alfalfa.

SOYBEANS

Soybean Aphid – Trace to light infestations remain prevalent statewide. Populations began to decline rapidly about two or three weeks ago, and have yet to rebound. However, in contrast to last week, more and more of the aphids being detected in infested fields are nymphs, indicating reproduction is occurring and populations may be on the rise. As a general rule, **soybean aphid** densities peak during vegetative plant stage, then decline rapidly afterwards, during the flowering stage. All fields surveyed this week were assigned severity ratings of 1 or 2, meaning no plant examined had more than 25 aphids per plant. Most in fact, had counts of fewer than 10 **soybean aphids** per plant.

APIARY

Varroa mite control – Control treatments such as Apistan or CheckMite Bee Hive Pest Control strips, for Varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*) should be placed in brood chambers by the 2nd week of September. This allows the colony to raise a population of healthy bees to overwinter. Honey supers must be removed first! Treatments must be removed after 42 to 45 days, which would be by the 4th week of October. Beekeepers should check colonies for the presence of mites using the ether roll or powdered sugar method to check whether treatment is necessary. Do not use Apistan and CheckMite at the same time! For more info see below.





http://datcp.state.wi.us/arm/environment/insects/pest-bulletin/

been detected in apiaries in Bayfield Co. A survey is ongoing to determine its spread and whether this subtropical beetle has any adverse effect on honeybees under Wisconsin climatic conditions. This new pest has now been found in six Wisconsin Counties since its first detection in this state in 1999.

Management and control options depend on the type of beekeeping operation and the number of honeybee colonies kept. Non-chemical honey house management recommendations include, extracting honey supers every two to three days, avoiding storage of full supers in the honey house, and using fans and dehumidifiers to keep humidity low. More information can be requested from the Apiary Program at (608) 224-4575 and the department website.

GINSENG

Cultivated ginseng survey– Rootknot nematode (**Meloidogyne spp.**) symptoms were found in Marathon Co. on a two year old plant. Nematodes do not have any significant economic impact on ginseng production. They form small ball shaped growths on fine roots that usually dry up when the roots are processed.

GINSENG PHENOLOGY – Plants in two- and three year old gardens are changing color. Ginseng berries are maturing and have turned red in three year old gardens.

FOREST, SHADE TREE, ORNAMENTALS AND TURF

CORRECTION - Last week it was reported that a disease tentatively identified as *Dothiora taxicola*-like was first found in 1999. The disease was first found at three different locations in 1998.

Cecropia caterpillars - While not a pest, these large larvae are now very visible in nurseries and landscape situations.



Viburnum crown borer - Heavy damage was found on highbush, mohican and Bailey's compact viburnum at a nursery in Rock Co. Symptoms of crown borer are early fall coloration and mounds of sawdust-like frass at the base of the plant.

Yellownecked caterpillar - Groups of larvae were observed feeding on a variety of shade trees at a nursery in Rock Co.

Zimmerman pine moth - Moderate damage from **Zimmerman pine moth** was evident on Austrian pine at nursery in Rock Co.

Pine needle scale - A few scattered Scotch pine at a nursery in Rock Co. had heavy amounts of scale.

Dothistroma needle blight - Austrian pines at nurseries in Rock and Waukesha Cos. had light to heavy amounts of needle browning from this disease.

Didymellina leaf spot - Moderate amounts of leaf blighting was occurring on German iris at a nursery in Waukesha Co.

Swiss needle cast - Douglas-fir at a nursery in Rock Co. had light to moderate amounts of this disease.

Tar spot - Moderate amounts of leaf spotting was found on silver maples at a nursery in Waukesha Co.

Anthracnose - Moderate amounts of **anthracnose** was found on river birch and walnut at a nursery in Rock Co.

Aster yellows - Symptoms of this disease caused by a phytoplasma was found on white coneflower and purple coneflower at a nursery in Waukesha Co.

STATE/FEDERALPROGRAMS

Gypsy moth program - As of 8/27 177,526 moths have been captured throughout the state. Trap takedown is complete in eight southern counties.





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