

Army cutworms may damage some wheat and alfalfa crops

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Last week I had said I would have an article on soybeans. However, with the recent rainfall, the wheat and alfalfa have greened-up which in turn has made these crops much more attractive to insects like army cutworms.

The wheat is in a very fragile state with not much growth, which can enhance the damage caused by army cutworms.

According to K-State entomologist Jeff Whitworth army cutworms have one generation a year. They lay eggs in the fall, which hatch, and the larvae overwinter. Depending on temperatures, the larvae resume feeding in late February or early March. They then grow and complete their development.

Reports indicate that cutworms are becoming a problem in Trego and Gove counties. However, farmers in Norton, Decatur, and Sheridan counties should keep their eyes open.

Cutworms feed on almost any vegetation, Whitworth said. In Kansas, however, they're usually pests in wheat and alfalfa. The larvae feed above the soil surface, but spend non-feeding time below ground. As they finish developing in the spring, they build "cells" a few inches under the surface and pupate. The adult moths typically emerge in May or June. During "outbreak" years the moths can occur in huge numbers.

Larvae seem to prefer leaves, but will eat other plant parts and may consume stems, even following them into the soil. Most feeding occurs from late afternoon until dark as the weather warms. Infestations may not be apparent under sunny conditions because the larvae seem to be sensitive to

About ag
Brian Olson,
K-State
agronomist



sunlight, often hiding in the soils. Larger larvae may be apparent on cloudy days, however, they can be found by digging down an inch or two on clear days.

Small amounts of damage can go unnoticed, but when large populations occur, plants often show small or semicircular holes in leaves. The extent of the damage depends on the number and size of larvae, size of the plants, and growing conditions.

Larvae may destroy alfalfa seedlings in early spring or hurt foliage enough to reduce the amount harvested in the first cutting. Early detection is critical for good control. Seedling fields are most vulnerable and should be treated if two or more larvae per two feet are present. Established stands should be treated if four to five larvae per two feet are detected.

Poor wheat stands are most sus-

ceptible. In such situations, only one to two larvae per two feet may justify treatment. Although an insecticide may be warranted, farmers have to decide if the stand is worth saving.

As I have reported previously, wheat just emerging over the winter and early spring will have poor tillering which will lead to low seed head numbers and will reduce yield by 50 percent or more depending upon the spring.

Probably fields with good stands won't need to be treated until larvae average four to five per two feet. Higher densities may be tolerated in well-tillered wheat with good growing conditions.

For more information about insecticides for army cutworms, download the Wheat Insect Management Guide 2004 and the Alfalfa Insect Management Guide 2004 by clicking on the icon Production and Pests at the Web site: www.oznet.ksu.edu/agronomy-block2/, or get a copy at your extension office.

Next week we'll start a series on soybean production.

Please e-mail me at bolson@oznet.ksu.edu if you have any questions or would like to see a newspaper article on a specific crop production topic.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Terron Peterson Notice of Suit

Published in The Norton Telegram, Tuesday, March 23, 30 and April 6, 2004. (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
TERRON L. PETERSON,
Plaintiff,

Case No. 2004-CV-13

vs.
PAULINE L. DAVISON, also known as PAULINE L. KING, SHARON K. DAVISON, and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants which are existing, dissolved or dormant corporations; the unknown executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors, successors and assigns of any defendants who are or were partners or in partnership; the unknown guardians, conservators and trustees of any defendants who are minors or are under any legal disability; and the unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, creditors and assigns of any person alleged to be deceased;
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS WHO ARE OR MAY BE CONCERNED:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a petition has been filed in the District Court of Norton County, Kansas, by the Terron L. Peterson, also known as Terry L. Peterson, Plaintiff, praying for an order quieting the title to the following described real estate situated in Norton County, Kansas, to-wit:

A tract of land commencing 1,550 feet South and 770 feet East of the Northwest Corner (NW/c) of Section Twenty-three (23), Township Five (5) South, Range Twenty-four (24) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Norton County, Kansas, thence South 185 feet, thence East 185 feet, thence North 185 feet, thence West 185 feet to the place of beginning.

The Petition further seeks an order holding the plaintiff to be the owner of fee simple title to the above described real estate, free of all right, title and interest of the above named defendants, and all other persons who are or may be concerned, and that they and each of them be forever barred and foreclosed of and from all right, title, interest, lien, estate, or equity of redemption in or to the above described real estate, or any part thereof.

YOU ARE HEREBY REQUIRED to plead to said petition on or before the 3rd day of May, 2004, in said Court at Norton, Norton County, Kansas. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

TERRON L. PETERSON
R. Douglas Sebelius, #09157
SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP
105 South Norton Street
P.O. Box 10
Norton, Kansas 67654-0010
(785) 877-5143
Attorney for Plaintiff

The Estate of Judith Miller

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, March 23, 30 and April 6, 2004. (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
In the Matter of the Estate of JUDITH M. MILLER, Deceased

Case No. 03-P-37

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

The State of Kansas To All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition was filed in this Court on March 23, 2004 by Delvis G. Miller, Executor of the Estate of Judith M. Miller, praying for final settlement of said estate, approval of his acts, proceedings and allowance of fees and expenses, determination of heirs, devisees and legatees entitled to the estate and assignment to them of the remaining estate assets in accordance with decedent's will.

You are notified that you are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before April 14, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. in the District Court, in the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said Petition.

DELVIS G. MILLER, Executor
William J. Ryan #05771
RYAN, WALTER & McCCLYMONT, Chtd.
120 S. State - PO Box 364
Norton, Kansas 67654
785-877-5183
Attorney for Executor

The Estate of Phyllis Mitchell

Published in The Norton Telegram on Tuesday, March 23, 30 and April 6, 2004. (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
In the Matter of the Estate of PHYLLIS JEAN MITCHELL, deceased.

Case No. 2004-PR-13

NOTICE OF HEARING

STATE OF KANSAS
COUNTY OF NORTON, ss.
The State of Kansas To All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that on March 22, 2004, a Petition For Determination of Descent was filed in this Court by Gordon Mitchell, one of the heirs of Phyllis Jean Mitchell, deceased, praying for the Determination of Descent of Phyllis Jean Mitchell, deceased and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the 12th day of April, 2004, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. of said day, in said Court, in the City of Norton, in Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said Petition.

Gordon Mitchell, Petitioner
John F. McClymont, #09379
RYAN, WALTER & McCCLYMONT, Chtd.
120 S. State - PO Box 364
Norton, Kansas 67654
785-877-5183
Attorney for Petitioner

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