



Agricultural Products

HatchTrakSM

August 3, 2004

In this Issue:

- Mustang Max - New Label issues
- Corn Insects
- Soybean Aphid / Bean Leaf Beetle
- Alfalfa Insects
- Growing Degree Day Update



FMC Corporation

Dan Smydra

Retail Market Manager

1372 Hardy Road

St. Paul NE 68873

Phone: 308-754-7840

Mobile: 308-750-6340

Fax: 308-754-7844

daniel_smydra@fmc.com

Mustang Max - NE 24(c) label : 1-day PHI

The Nebraska Dept. of Ag last week, approved a SLN 24(c) label to allow the use of Mustang Max for Field Corn, Seed Corn, and Popcorn (including seed popcorn) with a Pre-harvest interval of 1-day. This label permits the use of Mustang Max for controlling insects like corn borer, earworm much closer to harvest than the previous 30-day PHI on all types of corn (excluding sweet corn). This label will increase the flexibility to control insects close to seed corn, popcorn harvest and schedule harvest without worry of waiting for a longer PHI. Illinois has also approved a 1-day PHI label, and Iowa has issued a label with a 7-day PHI.

Corn Insect Update

The heavy Western Bean Cutworm moth flights in central NE have decreased dramatically as most fields needing treatment have been sprayed. Moth catches in western NE and northeastern CO were heaviest from July 15 through July 26 so treatments should be happening now into next week. Mustang Max at 1.5-2.0 oz has been working very well on heavy infestations. Capture at 2.5-3.0 oz has been applied in situations where longer residual for corn borer is desired.

Second generation ECB moth catches have been increasing the last 4-5 days across south-central and northeastern NE. Recent catches have increased to over 100-250+ moths per night in several locations. The warm nights we are seeing this week are more ideal for egg-laying and larvae survival and so fields need to be scouted for infestations. For 2nd generation ECB, Mustang Max at 2.5-4.0 oz is an inexpensive option to provide 10-14 days residual for ECB. For premium control with long residual, Capture at 2.1-3.0 oz can provide 14-30 days residual control depending on rate and infestation levels. With the high daytime temperatures we have been experiencing, it is recommended that crop oil is added to with Mustang or Capture to reduce evaporation during application and improve canopy penetration and coverage.



Agricultural Products

Corn Insects - Continued

Spider mites infestations have been absent or very low in most areas this year. The cool, more moist conditions we have seen this past June, July have helped keep mite populations in check. The recent return to hotter, drier conditions will increase mite activity again in corn. Capture is recommended at 5.12-6.4 oz/A when mites are at low to moderate levels to protect the upper part of the corn plant and prevent yield loss. Dimethoate at 1.0 pint should be added when mites have moved above the ear leaf, are expanding rapidly or when more two-spot spider mites are present to help with mite knockdown. Crop oil should be added when temperatures are above 90 degrees to improve canopy penetration and reduce evaporation. Spider mites can rob yield in hurry if allowed to move up corn plants unchecked. Capture has been shown to provide yield protection that is well worth the cost.

Soybeans - Aphids / Bean Leaf Beetle

Soybean aphids have been fairly widespread across eastern NE, although numbers continue to be low in most fields. The cooler conditions the end of July may have helped populations spread. Fields should be watched through the next 3 weeks to monitor populations. Significant yield response to treatments were observed in 2003 through the end of August. The F1 generation of Bean Leaf Beetle is now beginning to show up in soybeans so look for foliar damage from BLB as well as damage to newly emerging pods. Mustang Max alone or in combination with a low rate of an organophosphate insecticide is an excellent way to control multiple insects with knockdown and residual control to protect the yield as we go through the critical pod fill timeframe.

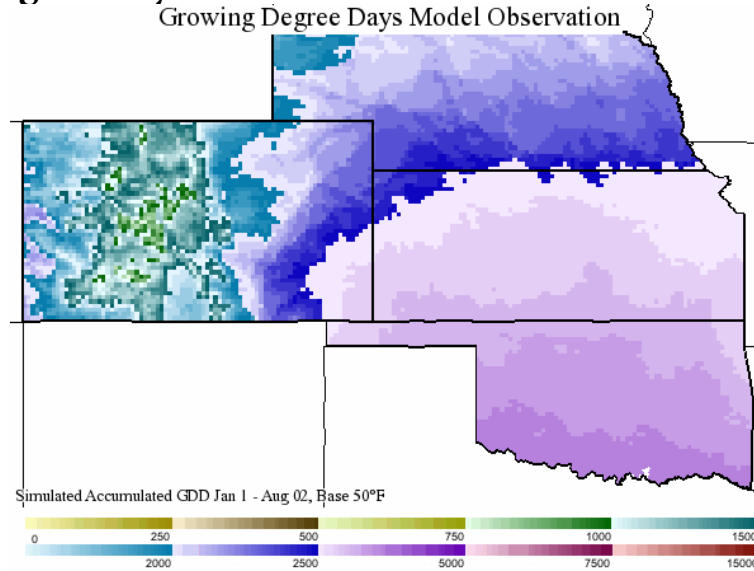
Alfalfa - 3rd, 4th cuttings

Recent observations in area alfalfa fields are showing increasing damage from pea aphids, spotted alfalfa aphids, and potato leafhoppers. Combinations of these insects can severely stress alfalfa and stunt new growth after cutting. Many times this lack of growth is blamed on hot weather and drought. Alfalfa can show signs of drought stress much earlier when subjected to stress caused by these insects that remove fluids and nutrients from alfalfa. Research has shown that treatment of small regrowth of alfalfa for these insects can result in significant improvement in yield as well as increases in alfalfa protein and RFV values. A residual product such as Mustang Max at 3.0-4.0 oz is recommended to protect alfalfa during the early stages of growth. Remember to watch newly seeded alfalfa from this past spring or new late summer seedings for damage as they are more vulnerable to damage which may weaken them going into fall dormancy.



Agricultural Products

Growing Degree Days - Base 50 as of 8/1/04



GDD's Departure from Normal as of 8/1/04

