



Boll Weevil Bugle

A Newsletter for the Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Program

10201 West Markham, Suite 100
Little Rock, AR 72205
501-223-2763
Danny Kiser, Director

SEPTEMBER 2004

Trappings Continue At Low Levels

Boll weevil trap catches in the Southeast, Southwest, and Central Zones show at least a 99.97% decrease in weevil captures with the Central Zone now at an all time low of 99.992% reduction level for this year. The latest 2004 trapping figures as of August 8 are:
Southwest Zone: The Southwest Zone is still showing a 100% reduction rate in commercial cotton growing areas. Nine weevils were trapped in a University of Arkansas test plot 40 miles away from other cotton growing areas. Fields in the Southwest Zone have not been sprayed in two years, except in test plots.

The 1998 season average of boll weevils per trap per week was 11.25.

Southeast Zone: Eradication was begun with a diapause program in 1999. The 2004 season to date average of boll weevils per trap per week is 0.0009. This represents a reduction of 99.97% in weevil population from 2000 to 2004.

For the first full season program of 2000, the average number of boll weevils captured per trap per week for the same time period was 13.8.

Central Zone: For the 2004 season to date, the Central Zone has averaged 0.0010 weevils per trap per week for a 99.992% reduction in weevil populations from 2000 to 2004. The Central Zone began a diapause program in 2000 and averaged 28.8 weevils per trap per week

during the same time period.

Northeast Ridge Zone: A diapause program was initiated in 2001 and the zone completed its first full season in 2002. The zone averaged 0.629 weevils per trap per week in the 2001 season.

We've seen a significant change up to this point in these trapping numbers for the 2004 season now that the Northeast Delta Zone has entered the program. The average number of boll weevils per trap per week to date is 0.0122. This is a 96.6% reduction in weevil population from 2001 to 2004.

Northeast Delta Zone: The Northeast Delta Zone began a diapause program last year and is now in its first full year of the program. For the 2004 season to date, the average number of boll weevils per trap per week is 0.37.

How Growers Can Help

Growers can help speed up the completion of the fall diapause program through timely field maintenance, including:

- Timely defoliation
- Timely harvest
- Timely crop destruction
- Providing access to all fields for ABWEP personnel

Prompt attention to these procedures can reduce the number of treatments needed to complete the season, thereby reducing the overall cost of your program.

From the Chairman The Road to Success

This season has seen great strides forward for your Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Program. Weevil counts are dropping at a steady rate with the Southwest Zone already in maintenance and the Central and Southeast Zones nearing that goal.

With the Northeast Delta Zone now in the program, we are seeing a rapid decrease in the number of weevils not only in that zone but also in the Northeast Ridge and Central Zones as we have greatly reduced migration. There is no question that the program is working and we are well on our way to eradicating this devastating pest from the United States.

We have just finished our annual audit of the program and are pleased to report that your program is financially strong. We are continually looking for ways to decrease costs and save money. Recently, the Board voted to take advantage of lower interest loans in order to pay off

some of our higher interest loans and save on interest costs. Other cost savings measures include:

- Decreasing trapping and supervisor field staff in areas where we are nearing eradication
- Researching new lure and trapping technologies for post-eradication that will greatly reduce our staffing needs
- Selling off aging equipment in zones nearing eradication and maintaining just the minimum amount of equipment needed by the smaller staff

I also want to give you just a quick update on the lawsuit filed by a few growers in the Northeast Delta Zone. As you know, the judge ruled in the favor of the State Plant Board on all counts in the lawsuit. The plaintiffs in that lawsuit have now appealed that ruling to the Arkansas Supreme Court and we are awaiting their decision. We have confidence that the ruling will be upheld.

While the lawsuit has held up assessment funds from this zone, we have obtained adequate loan financing for this situation.

Continued on page 6

Treatment Criteria for 2004

Fields catching weevils will be treated with ULV Malathion based upon the following boll weevil population thresholds in specified areas.

| Percentage of Fields Catching Weevils | Trigger | Action |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Less than 3% of fields catching | 1 weevil/field | Spray all fields surrounding the field where the weevil was captured, plus 5-day automatic respray |
| 3 to 5% of fields catching | 1 weevil/field | Spray field and all surrounding fields |
| 6 to 10% of fields catching | 1 weevil/field | Spray only adjacent fields to field where weevil was captured |
| 11 to 20% of fields catching | 2 weevils /field | Spray adjacent fields to field where weevil was captured |
| Greater than 20% of fields catching | 2 weevils/field | Spray adjacent 40 acres |

Use of Pesticides on Cotton Fields Drops in Texas

The levels of pesticide use on cotton fields have fallen to an all-time low following boll weevil eradication, according to a report by the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Program.

In the High Plains and Plainview districts of Texas, as weevil eradication nears, cotton growers are working with integrated pest management specialists to find ways of controlling the remaining pests with minimal use of insecticides.

According to Tom Fuchs, statewide IPM coordinator for the Texas Cooperative Extension Service, growers should be able to reduce their use of pesticides by 75 percent. Dr. James Lester, extension entomologist in Lubbock commented, "We have seen a 67 percent reduction in insecticide use for bollworms, beet armyworms and aphids the last couple of years, which I attribute to less spraying for weevils."

Tennessee Study Shows Net Returns Increase

Over in Tennessee, a recent study by the Institute of Agriculture, Agricultural Experiment Station shows a significant increase in per acre net returns following eradication. Using a baseline of \$104.81/acre in the Northwest eradication area, the study found that growers experience a net return growth of \$55.54 per acre over the baseline amount during the post eradication period. The baseline was determined by using the average cost of controlling all insect pests over the previous ten years.

In the Southwest area, similar results were achieved. Using a baseline of

\$65.92/acre, net returns rose by \$72.76 per acre over the baseline amount. These figures include not only increased yield but savings on insecticide costs and applications.

ABWEP Employs Cost Saving Measures

At your ABWEP, we are continually looking for ways to decrease costs and save money. Recently, the Board voted to take advantage of lower interest loans in order to pay off some of our higher interest loans and save on interest costs. Other cost savings measures implemented on the local levels include:

- Decreasing trapping and supervisor field staff in areas where we are nearing eradication
- Researching new lure and trapping technologies for post-eradication that will greatly reduce our staffing needs
- Selling off aging equipment in zones nearing eradication and maintaining just the minimum amount of equipment needed by the smaller staff

Your Foundation Board and program staff will continue to work diligently to remain effective, complete the program and to further reduce costs wherever possible.

Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Program
10201 West Markham, Suite 100
Little Rock, AR 72205

FORWARD SERVICE REQUESTED

www.arkansasweevil.org

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The Road to Success
(continued from page 2)

There have been many challenges over the years and your Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board has always taken the steps it felt were necessary to protect the financial viability and eradication efforts of the program. It is a duty and a trust that we all take very seriously.

With your support and help, we will move this program forward. There are already many areas in the Cotton Belt that have reached eradication. All of our efforts are paying off. The Board and I thank you for your support and your vision for the future. It is the vision for the survival and growth of the cotton industry in the

Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Program is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

United States

Sincerely,

Ritter Arnold, Chairman

Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation

For up-to-date trapping information,
go to our web site:

www.arkansasweevil.org

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Arkansas Boll Weevil Eradication Program

Field Office Staff Contacts:

| CENTRAL ZONE | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|
| Forrest City District 375 Haven St. Forrest City, AR 72335 | | |
| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
| DS | Kent Childers | 870-692-6372 |
| EMS | Devin Smith | 870-270-7057 |
| EMS | Judy Merritt | 870-270-7336 |
| FUS 301 | Horace Cupples | 870-261-2013 |
| ADS 302 | Deborah Worthington | 870-270-7333 |
| FUS 303 | Tommy Clark | 870-270-7334 |
| FUS 304 | Marlyn Green | 870-270-7073 |
| FUM 305 | Mark Spain | 870-270-7058 |
| FUS 306 | Joel Conner | 870-270-7335 |
| FUM 307 | Mark Spain | 870-270-7058 |
| Marvell District P.O. Box 219 310 Hwy. 1S Marvell, AR 72366 | | |
| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
| DS | Regina Coleman | 870-692-6368 |
| EMS | Imogene Watkins | 870-270-6067 |
| FUM 308 | Linda Kelley | 870-270-7077 |
| FUM 309 | Linda Kelley | 870-270-7077 |
| FUS 310 | Vivian Ross | 870-270-7079 |
| FUS 311 | Jerry Johnston | 870-270-7086 |
| ADS 312 | Larry Johnson, Jr. | 870-270-7059 |
| FUS 313 | Chad Crawford | 870-270-7649 |
| FUM 314 | Chad Crawford | 870-270-7649 |
| FUM 315 | Chad Crawford | 870-270-7649 |

| NORTHEAST DELTA ZONE | | |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| Leachville District P.O. Box 417 5103 W. State Hwy. 18 Leachville, AR 72438 | | |
| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
| DS | Jaye Massey | 870-740-8530 |
| ADS | Jack Davis, Jr. | 870-740-8537 |
| ADS | Mary Small | 870-740-8532 |
| EMS | Karen Harvison | 870-740-8540 |
| EMS | Larry Henry | 870-740-8539 |
| EMS | Josh White | 870-740-8538 |
| FUS 509 | Candy Lomax | 870-740-8541 |
| FUS 510 | Trina Bell | 870-740-8548 |
| FUS 511 | Jessica Johnson | 870-740-8543 |
| FUS 512 | Brent Wellman | 870-740-8542 |
| FUS 513 | Charla Weber | 870-740-8545 |
| FUS 514 | Jenny Stacks | 870-740-8546 |
| FUS 515 | Chris McMinn | 870-740-8544 |
| FUS 516 | Bonita Edgin | 870-740-8547 |
| Osceola District 1120 West Kiser Suite 18 Osceola, AR 72370 | | |
| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
| DS | Kimberly Fleeman | 870-740-8533 |
| ADS | Justin Harris | 870-740-8531 |
| ADS | Brett Courtney | 870-740-8628 |
| EMS | Jon Wellman | 870-740-8629 |
| EMS | Deanna Ridge | 870-740-8630 |
| EMS | Jimmy Gore | 870-278-3947 |
| FUS 501 | Cassie Ball | 870-740-8632 |
| FUS 502 | Adam Lindley | 870-740-8633 |
| FUS 503 | Josh Copeland | 870-740-8634 |
| FUS 504 | Samantha Hayse | 870-740-8639 |
| FUS 505 | Bo Wooten | 870-740-8637 |
| FUS 506 | Bo Wooten | 870-740-8637 |
| FUS 507 | T.J. Brickell | 870-740-8638 |
| FUS 508 | Jonathon Williams | 870-740-8931 |

NORTHEAST RIDGE ZONE**Rector District**

P.O. Box 314
202 W. 9th St.
Rector, AR 72461

| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| DS | Josh Bean | 870-219-6966 |
| ADS | Steven Trotter | 870-219-6430 |
| EMS | Chris Rollings | 870-897-1048 |
| FUM 401 | Jackie Bishop | 870-219-7075 |
| FUM 402 | Jackie Bishop | 870-219-7075 |
| FUS 403 | Jerry Hutchison | 870-219-5022 |
| FUS 404 | Dusty Kennemore | 870-219-9785 |

Trumann District

509 Hwy. 463 S
Trumann, AR 72472

| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| DS | Glenn Harrell | 870-483-3076 |
| EMS | Erik Deatheredge | 870-483-3108 |
| EMS | Jason Wade | 870-483-3078 |
| FUS 405 | Tommy Dunigan | 870-219-7543 |
| FUS 406 | David Hutton | 870-483-3274 |
| FUS 407 | Lori McMinn | 870-219-7604 |
| FUM 408 | Bonnie Cain | 870-483-3284 |
| ADS 409 | Chris Case | 870-483-3348 |
| FUS 410 | Jay Woods | 870-483-3363 |
| FUM 411 | Bonnie Cain | 870-483-3284 |

SOUTHWEST ZONE**Texarkana District**

Rt. 1, Box 97
Fouke, AR 71837

| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------|
| ADS | Andy Taylor | 870-818-3655 |

SOUTHEAST ZONE**Pine Bluff District**

P.O. Box 5237 (71611-5237)
511 Commerce Rd.
Suites C&D
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| DS | Leigh Gibson | 870-692-5482 |
| EMS | Joy Taylor | 870-543-9851 |
| FUM 217 | Rachel Wilkerson | 870-814-9905 |
| FUM 218 | Amanda French | 870-692-6375 |
| FUM 219 | Amanda Jackson | 870-692-6371 |
| FUM 220 | Rachel Wilkerson | 870-814-9905 |
| FUM 221 | Jody Phillips | 870-692-4092 |
| FUM 222 | Jody Phillips | 870-692-4092 |
| FUM 223 | Jody Phillips | 870-692-4092 |
| FUM 224 | Amanda Jackson | 870-692-6371 |

Kelso District

2835 Hwy. 138 E
Tillar, AR 71670

| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| DS | Chris Berg | 870-692-6364 |
| FUM 210 | Brenda King | 870-918-2673 |
| FUM 211 | Donnie Watson | 870-692-6370 |
| FUM 212 | Dana Mays | 870-814-9907 |
| FUM 213 | Dana Mays | 870-814-9907 |
| FUM 214 | Brenda King | 870-918-2673 |
| FUM 215 | Donnie Watson | 870-692-6370 |
| FUM 216 | Amanda French | 870-692-6375 |

Portland District

P.O. Box 399
223 N. Main
Portland, AR 71663

| Position & Name | | Mobile # |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| ADS 201 | David Lynn | 870-692-3468 |
| EMS | Glenda Moyers | 870-814-7474 |
| EMS | Terah Martar | 870-818-0401 |
| FUM 202 | David Lynn | 870-692-3468 |
| FUM 203 | David Lynn | 870-692-3468 |
| FUM 204 | David Lynn | 870-692-3468 |
| DS 205 | David Lynn | 870-692-3468 |
| DS 206 | David Lynn | 870-692-3468 |
| FUS 207 | Brenda King | 870-918-2673 |