



The University of Georgia
Cooperative Extension Service
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

June 7, 2007

COTTON PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER #2

COTTON SITUATION: The Georgia Weekly Crop Progress and Condition Report for the week ending June 3rd listed the crop as 74 percent planted which is significantly below the five year average of 91 percent. Beneficial rains from tropical storm Barry fell on central and east GA production areas, however some areas on the western side of the state are still DRY.

INSECT SITUATION: Thrips are the primary insect of concern at this time and continue to be troublesome in some fields. Spotty aphid infestations have been observed in some fields.

Scout Schools: Remaining cotton scout schools are scheduled as follows:

<p>Hazelhurst (9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon) Jeff Davis Co. Extension Office June 13, 2007 Contact Tim Varnedore (912) 375-6648</p>	<p>Midville (9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon) Southeast Branch Experiment Station June 14, 2007 Contact Will Duffie (706) 554-2119</p>
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Thrips: Thrips infestations have been moderate to heavy to date. We would anticipate infestations to be lower on recently emerged cotton. However, this season has been very dry and historical trends may or may not hold true. Cotton which has moisture should grow rapidly which will allow plants to “outgrow” minor injury. Once plants reach the 5-leaf stage and are growing vigorously, treatment for thrips is rarely necessary.

On late emerging cotton, growers should monitor thrips closely. Excessive thrips damage will delay maturity which could impact our ability to mature a late emerging crop.

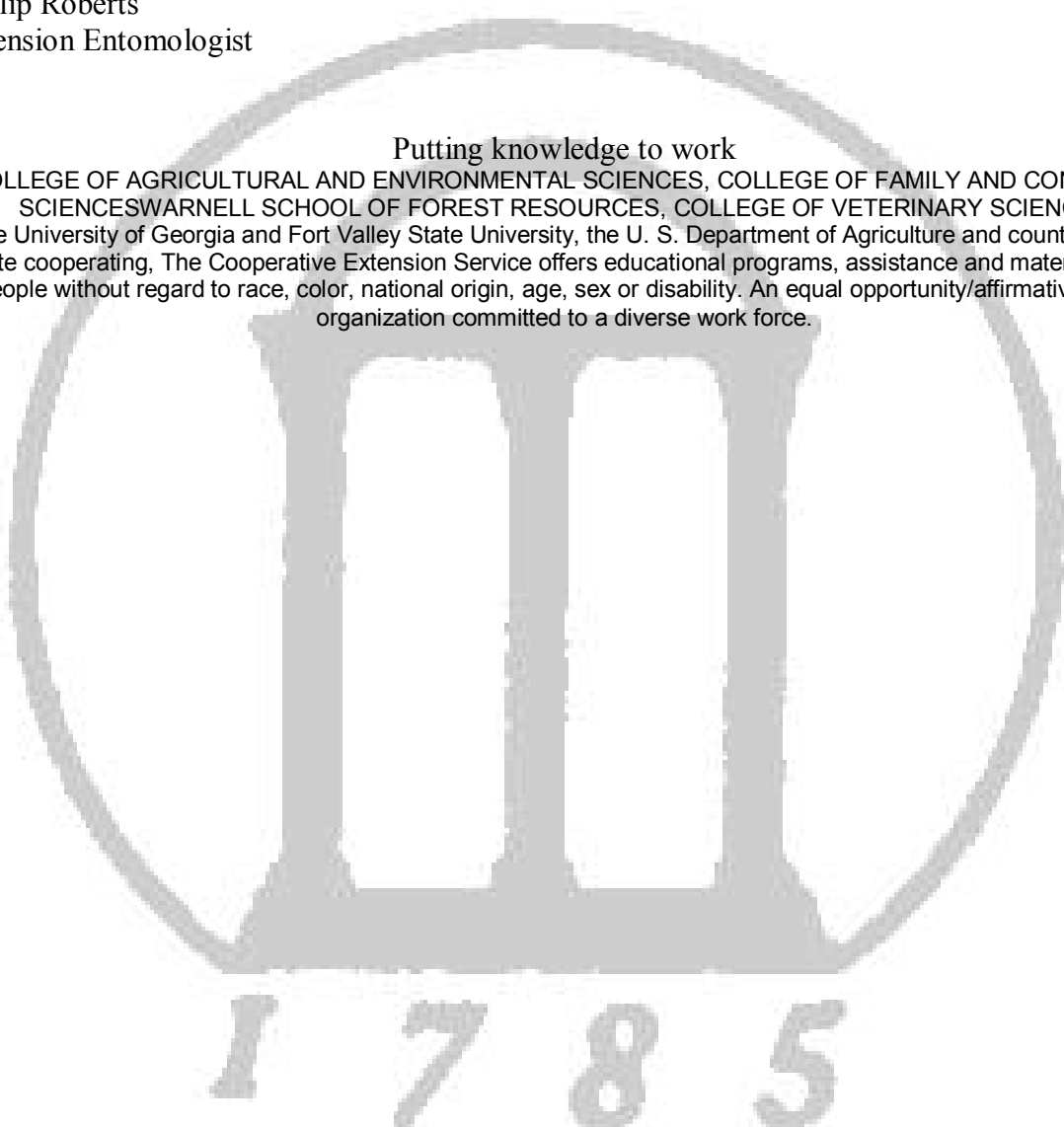
The presence of immature or wingless thrips (usually cream colored) is an indication that the preventive insecticide used at planting is failing. The majority of adult thrips observed in seedling cotton are tobacco thrips which are dark brown or black in color. However some species such as western flower thrips adults are light colored. A hand lens will aid you when examining thrips for the presence of wings.



INSECT UPDATES: Check the **Cotton Insect Hotline (1-800-851-2847)** for updates on current insect conditions. The Cotton Pest Management Newsletter and additional cotton production information is also posted on the UGA Cotton Homepage at: <http://www.ugacotton.com>

Sincerely,

Phillip Roberts
Extension Entomologist



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