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WATCH FOR

The branch end nests of **FALL WEBWORMS** on many types of trees; the opportunity for **CATTLE GRUB** control begins; **WHITE GRUB** damage beginning to appear on infested turf; **FLEA** problems increase on pets; **TWIG GIRDLERS** active on oaks; more frequent encounters with **YELLOWJACKETS and HORNETS**; **FOREIGN GRAIN BEETLES**, especially in new homes; **WALNUT CATERPILLARS** on walnut, pecan, and hickory

CORN & SOYBEAN

FUNGICIDE RESTRICTIONS ON CORN SILAGE AND SOYBEAN FORAGE
by Paul Vincelli and Don Hershman

The following article will be of interest to some Kentucky forage producers. The article is reproduced from the Crop Observation and Recommendation Network (C.O.R.N) Newsletter and was written by Dennis Mills, Anne Dorrance, and Pierce Paul.

"Foliar fungicides have been and will be applied to corn and soybeans. There are feeding restrictions with some fungicides. Below is a brief list according to the current label. As always double check the label to be sure there are no restrictions.

Domark (*tetraconazole*) 12 hour REI (*restricted entry interval*)
Corn - Not labeled
Soybeans - Do not apply after R5. Do not graze or feed soybean forage or hay to livestock.

Headline (*pyraclostrobin*) 12 hour REI
Corn - 7 day phi. No livestock feeding restrictions
Soybeans - 21 day phi. Soybean forage may be fed no sooner than 14 days after last application.

Proline (*prothioconazole*) 48 hour REI
Soybeans – 21 day phi. No feeding restrictions.

Quadris (*azoxystrobin*) 4 hour REI
Corn - 7 day phi
Soybeans - 14 day phi. May be applied the day of harvest to soybean forage and hay.

Quilt (*azoxystrobin* + *propiconazole*) 12 hour REI
Corn - 30 day phi for forage, grain and stover
Soybeans - Do not apply within 21 days of harvest for seed and 0 days for forage and hay.

Stratego (*propiconazole* + *trifloxystrobin*) 24 hour REI
Corn - 30 day phi. Do not apply after silking. Do not graze or harvest for forage within 30 days of application.
Soybeans - 21 day phi. Do not feed hay."

[1]Issue 2008-23, July 21, 2008 – July 29, 2008

COMMON RUST
by Paul Vincelli

Common rust is a common disease in Kentucky corn. The disease produces leaf pustules that are circular to oval, golden-brown to cinnamon brown, up to 1/8 long. An excellent image is available online at http://ipm.uiuc.edu/bulletin/article.php?id=998. Pustules become brown to black at harvest. Leaves turn yellow and dry up when severely infected. Pustules of common rust (caused by *Puccinia sorghi*) are common on both leaf surfaces. (For the record, pustules of the much more destructive rust called *southern rust* (caused by *Puccinia polysora*) are densely scattered on upper leaf surface, with few on lower surface. However, southern rust has not been reportedly anywhere in Kentucky or the region.)

Common rust rarely causes economical loss in field corn in Kentucky. Most hybrids in Kentucky seem to have adequate resistance levels to common rust for our conditions. Late-planted corn is more at risk than corn planted early or on-time, though my impression is that even late-planted fields usually don't have enough disease pressure in Kentucky to justify a fungicide spray for common rust alone. Late-planted fields that have high yield potential and which are showing a mix of common rust and other leaf diseases at tasseling—gray leaf spot and/or northern leaf blight—would be more likely to benefit from a single fungicide spray at silking than a late-planted field with common rust alone.

SOYBEANS

See Corn

LAWN & TURF

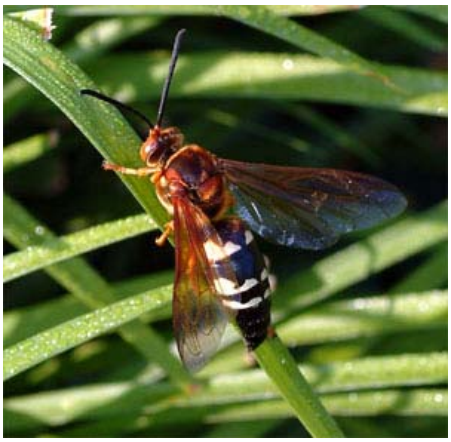
RUST ON KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS
by Paul Vincelli

Leaf rust is reportedly severe on selected swards of Kentucky bluegrass in central Kentucky. This is a little early for severe pressure. The generally wet weather with moderate temperatures this summer have been very favorable for rust development. The disease is readily recognizable in the field from its tiny, orangish pustules of powdery spores that erupt from within the leaf blade, eventually causing leaf blades to turn yellow and dry up. The disease does not kill turf outright but can weaken it if severe.

Under Kentucky conditions, leaf rusts on cool-season turfgrasses usually are significant problems only in swards that are growing slowly, such as those that are low in nitrogen (the predominant factor this season) or low in soil moisture. Since autumn is a very important time to fertilize swards of cool-season turfgrasses in Kentucky to help promote root growth and overall vigor, swards that are showing substantial levels of rust may simply need to be fertilized after Labor Day. For particularly high- value swards where there may be interest in spraying fungicides, the most effective products are those that contain azoxystrobin, mancozeb, propiconazole, pyraclostrobin, triadimefon, or chlorothalonil (but note that several years ago chlorothalonil lost its label for use on residential lawns).

CICADA KILLER WASPS
by Lee Townsend

Cicada killer wasps are among the most impressive of the large insects seen during a Kentucky summer. They are out now setting up housekeeping in well-drained, light-



textured soil in full sun, where vegetation is sparse. Common sites include along sidewalks, in landscaping beds, or in lawns or fields where the turf is sparse. The wasps are solitary but in a few years, several hundred burrows may develop in an area. This results in places where the wasps are very numerous and their normal activities can be unsettling or intimidating.

Most encounters with this species probably are with stingless males that set up territorial perches where they wait and challenge intruders that come near. These wasps may approach people who enter their "turf" but quickly lose interest and are harmless. Females, which can sting, are too busy hunting cicadas to bury in underground tunnels as food for their larvae to be bothered by humans. However, they may respond to direct disturbance of their burrows and will sting in self-defense.

Cicada tunnels usually have a distinctive U-shaped collar of loose soil around the opening. Individual tunnels are 12 to 18 inches long and may extend 6 to 12 inches deep. There are an average of 15 egg-shaped cells as side chambers to the tunnel, each containing a paralyzed cicada and a developing wasp larva. Development will be completed next year with the wasps emerging in late summer.

The presence of large numbers of cicada killers in a area is a sign of ideal conditions for them plus an ample supply of cicadas. Over the long term, developing a thick turf may be the best approach to reducing wasp numbers if that is a goal. Direct treatment of burrow openings with Sevin dust may provide some short term control.

HOUSEHOLD

DANGER ZONE: DEALING WITH WASP AND HORNET NESTS
by Mike Potter

Wasp stings are a serious health threat to humans and animals. Many people in the United States die each year from allergic reactions to the venom of these insects. Paper wasps, hornets and yellowjackets are more dangerous and unpredictable than honeybees. Workers

foraging away from the nest are seldom aggressive, but nests should be eliminated with great care and in a specific manner. "Folk" remedies such as dousing nests with gasoline or a garden hose seldom work and can result in multiple stings.

Paper Wasps -- Paper wasps (as well as hornets and yellowjackets) construct nests of a paper-like material containing finely chewed wood fragments and salivary secretions. Paper wasps typically build their umbrella-shaped nests in protected locations, such as under eaves, gutters and ledges or in attics and outbuildings. Nests also may be located behind shutters, or inside exterior light fixtures, gas grills and mailboxes. Most paper wasps are brownish or rust-colored, although one increasingly common variety, the European paper wasp, has yellow and black markings much like a yellowjacket. Paper wasps have a "waist" that is very thin, however, which distinguishes them from hornets and yellowjackets.

Paper wasps are not very aggressive, but stings can occur when householders inadvertently disturb nests that are hidden. If the nest is accessible, it can be eliminated rather easily with a wasp and hornet spray sold at most retail stores. One advantage of these formulations is that they can be sprayed as far as 20 feet. Although it's best to treat all wasp nests at night, paper wasps can be eliminated during the daytime *provided you do not stand directly below the nest during treatment.* Most wasp aerosol sprays cause insects to drop instantly. Standing directly under a nest increases the risk of being stung. After treatment, wait a day to ensure that the colony is destroyed; then scrape or knock down the nest.

Hornets -- Hornets are far more difficult and dangerous to control than paper wasps. The nests resemble a large, gray, bloated football, which typically is attached to a tree, bush or side of a building. Oftentimes the nest is concealed among branches, especially in densely canopied trees such as Bradford pear. Hornet nests may contain thousands of wasps that are extremely aggressive when disturbed. The nests often are located out of reach and elimination is best accomplished by a professional pest control firm.

Treat hornet nests at night when most insects are within the nest and less active (follow night treatment precautions discussed below for yellowjackets). A full wasp suit, sealed at the wrists, ankles and collar, is recommended. Apply an aerosol-type wasp and hornet spray or dust formulation (e.g., Sevin, Drione, DeltaDust) directly into the nest opening. Hornet nests generally have a single opening, usually toward the bottom, where the wasps enter and exit. *It is crucial that the paper envelope of the nest not be broken during treatment or the irritated wasps will scatter in all directions, causing even greater problems.*

Following treatment, wait at least 2-3 days before removing the nest to ensure that all of the wasps are killed. If hornets continue to be seen, the application may need to be repeated.

If the nest is located away from frequently used areas, another option is to wait and do nothing. In Kentucky, wasp, hornet, yellowjacket, and bumblebee colonies die off naturally after the weather turns cold, and the paper carton disintegrates over the winter months.

Yellowjackets -- Yellowjackets are probably the most dangerous stinging insects in the United States. They tend to be unpredictable and usually sting if the nest is disturbed. Yellowjacket nests are often located under-ground in old animal burrows (e.g., chipmunks), or beneath rocks or landscape timbers. They also build nests in walls, attics, crawlspaces, and behind exterior siding of buildings.

If the nest can be located, it often can be eliminated by applying an aerosol-type wasp and hornet spray into the opening. Insecticide dust formulations containing Sevin (sold in lawn and garden shops), DeltaDust, or Drione, are especially effective but require a hand duster to dispense several puffs of the dust into the nest opening. In lieu of a commercial duster, a workable alternative is to use a dry, empty liquid detergent bottle filled with an inch or so of dust. A few pebbles or marbles added to the bottom prevents the dust from caking, and the bottle should be shaken before dispensing. (Remember to dispose of the bottle after use, or store it away from children and pets). Dusts tend to be more effective than aerosols when the nest itself is located some distance from the entrance hole — as often occurs when yellowjackets construct nests behind exterior siding or deep within abandoned animal burrows. Insecticide dust blown into the opening penetrates farther than sprays, and the workers transport it throughout the nest.

Ideally, treatment should be performed at night, when most of the yellowjackets are in the nest and less active. Pinpoint the nest opening during the daytime, so you will remember where to direct your treatment after dark. Approach the nest slowly and do not shine the beam of your flashlight directly into the nest entrance as this may startle the wasps and cause them to fly toward the light. Instead, cast the beam to the side to illuminate the nest indirectly. If possible, place the light on the ground rather than in your hand.

When contemplating extermination of a yellowjacket or hornet nest, clients should be informed that they are entering a DANGER ZONE — there is no pest control scenario more frightening than a 'blown' wasp or hornet treatment. It is often prudent to refer homeowners to a

professional, especially when access to the nest requires a ladder or is difficult.

Wasp, hornet and yellowjacket stings can be life threatening to persons who are allergic to the venom. People who develop hives, dizziness, breathing or swallowing difficulty, wheezing, or similar symptoms of allergic reaction should seek medical attention immediately. Itching, pain, and localized swelling can be reduced with antihistamines and an ice pack.

INSECT TRAP COUNTS

July 18-25, 2008

►***Princeton, KY***

Black cutworm....4
True armyworm....32
Corn earworm....266
European corn borer....2
Southwestern corn borer....28
Fall armyworm....9

►***Lexington, KY***

Black cutworm....2
True armyworm....102
Corn earworm....1
European corn borer....0
Southwestern corn borer....0
Fall armyworm....1

Graphs of insect trap counts are available on the IPM web site at -http://www.uky.edu/Ag/IPM/ipm.htm. View trap counts for Fulton County, Kentucky at - http://ces.ca.uky.edu/fulton/anr/

Lee Townsend

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NOTE: Trade names are used to simplify the information presented in this newsletter. No endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products that are not named.

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