## Alfalfa Weevil Season Approaching

**DR. LEE TOWNSEND** LEXINGTON, KY. he alfalfa weevil is the key pest to watch for on the first cutting of alfalfa each year. As with several important crop pests, activity periods can be predicted but pest levels cannot. That takes individual field assessment. Information from the UK AG WX Center allows us to follow the progress of this insect on

this excellent degree day

accumulation map that

updated daily

http://wwwagwx.ca.uky. edu/ldm-images/awacc. gif. Each color band on the map corresponds with important degree day values used in making control decisions. The map shows that most of the state is in the 226 to 275 dd range so if damaging populations are found, an insecticide application with a long

Treatment decisions can be made using the sampling program in ENT-17, Insecticide Recommendations for alfalfa, clover, and pastures OR treating if feeding damage is seen on 25% to 50% of the tips and there are 2 or more live weevil larvae per stem.

Or. Lea Townsend is Extension Enterpolary.

residual life should

be used.

Dr. Lee Townsend is Extension Entomology Professor with the University of Kentucky at Lexington.



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