

Be Aware *Of* Pests

Specialist Outlines Prescription For Outwitting Crop Pests

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Be aware of the pests that are likely to invade your crop, learn about the products that will offer control if they do, and get acquainted with the University Extension and consultant resources available to you. That's the message of Roy Boykin, Syngenta's technical brand manager for insecticides.

"Most of our insect problems occur in the southern states, and they have quite a range of insect problems – a range of worms, a range of stinkbugs, and plant bugs as well," he said. "These pests can occur throughout the season. In the southern states they are well aware they have to start scouting early, and they need to continue throughout harvest."

Localized experts are on top of the pest situation of crops, and producers need to be aware of the alerts as they are published.

"They change according to weather patterns, crop growth stages and according to the partic-

ular crop as well," Boykin said. "Producers need to go into the season focusing on the crops they are growing and managing, what the typical pest spectrum is, what their sampling techniques should be and when they might expect the different pests to appear."

Beyond that, they should go into the season with a little knowledge of what products are best suited for the control of the pests they may encounter as they move through the season.

"Of course, we have a wide range of insect control products that we can provide to growers," he continued, naming such products as Endigo ZC, Agri-Mek, Karate with Zeon Technology, Warrior II with Zeon Technology, Centric, CruiserMaxx Beans seed treatment and Avicta Complete Corn seed treatment.

Awareness by the grower can make the difference between a successful year and one where all the effort is lost. △

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