

Rootworm Beetles And Bean Leaf Beetles Create Concern: Be Checking Corn Fields For Japanese Beetles

LAMAR, MO.

Jill Hankins, agronomy assistant with University of Missouri Extension in Barton County, scouted fields north of Liberal on June 20. She scouted some corn fields that were in the tenth to twelfth leaf stage.



Corn rootworm feeding on corn.

“There was a low number of feeding from fall armyworms but it was not in the whorl; so there is no cause for concern. I also saw a couple corn rootworm beetles; they were not in high enough populations to cause concern,” said Hankins.

In area soybeans fields that were scouted, most were in the first to second trifoliate stage.

“I saw minor feeding by bean leaf beetles in these fields but insecticide is justified when the leaves show 30 percent defoliation before podding,” said Hankins. “After pods are put on, insecticide is justified when the leaves show 20 percent defoliation.”

Grape Colaspis were also seen, according to Hankins, but they are a minor pest and do not cause significant damage.

Japanese Beetles are also beginning to show up. According to Hankins they are not a concern until the corn pollination time. “They will eat the silk and prevent pollination of the kernels. Insecticide is justified with three or more Japanese beetle per ear tip during pollination,” said Hankins. △

Some bean leaf beetles were found in soybean fields in the 1-2nd trifoliate stage. Insecticide is justified when the leaves show 30 percent defoliation before podding.

