

IMPACT OF LYGUS ON CROPS - DRY BEANS (EMPHASIS ON BLACK EYE COWPEAS)

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HOW ARE POPULATIONS OF LYGUS SAMPLED OR MONITORED?

In California, lygus are monitored using a sweep net in all the dry beans. The definition of a sweep is one pass over two rows of beans.

WHAT ARE THE ECONOMIC THRESHOLDS?

Blackeyes: 0.5 lygus bugs/sweep during bud through small pod, 1 bug/sweep later in the season

Limas: 0.5 bugs/sweep during early bloom, 1-2 bugs/sweep later in season

Green limas: 1 bug/sweep

Pinks, Reds: 1 – 1.5 bugs/sweep

Small whites: 1.5 bugs/sweep

HOW IMPORTANT ARE EXTERNAL LYGUS POPULATIONS TO THE CROP?

Lygus migrating in the spring, moving in from adjacent riparian areas, or coming from recently cut alfalfa hay are thought to be very important. Once in blackeyes, lygus stay and reproduce. They also like lima beans and will stay in that crop as well.

WHAT INSECTICIDES ARE EFFECTIVE?

The effectiveness is questionable due to questions on efficacy/resistance, lack of residual control, and possibly coverage problems (applications are almost always by air):

dimethoate

acephate (Orthene)

methomyl (Lannate)

methyl parathion (Penncap-M)

esfenvalerate (Asana) (lygus are not on the label but worms and aphids are)

WHAT OTHER BIOLOGICAL OR CULTURAL OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

Nothing very practical is available to the blackeye grower. Leave uncut strips in alfalfa and hope for the best.

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