Agricultural Beet

July 22nd, 2022

Be on the Look Out for Lygus Bug

Lygus bugs generally, migrate into sugar beet fields from adjacent alfalfa fields that have been cut or from edible bean fields after dry down. Adults and nymphs damage sugar beet plants by feeding on new leaves with piercing-sucking mouthparts. Females further damage plants by laying eggs into the petioles. Yield is impacted mostly due to late-season development of new leaves in response to feeding injury.

Leaf tip yellowing following feeding of Lygus Bug.

Feeding damage on petiole from Lygus Bug.

If over one-third of plants are infested with even one lygus bug, chemical control may be justified to prevent economic damage from occurring. However, an insecticide application within 3 weeks of harvest is likely not going to be economically beneficial.

Treatment decisions should be made on a field-by-field basis. Do not tank mix insecticides with Tin fungicides. For assistance with treatment decisions, contact your Agriculturist.

Product	Rate	Insect Pest	PHI
Dibrom 8 Emulsive	1 pint/acre	Lygus Bug	2 Days
Asana XL	5.8-9.6 oz/acre	Has activity against lygus bug at the high rate but not specifically listed on the label.	21 Days
Mustang Maxx	2.24-4.0 oz/acre	Lygus Bug	50 Days
Transform WG	1.5-2.75 oz/acre	Lygus spp	7 Days

Always consult the product label for specifics on application rates and timing the table above is simply a guideline.

"Applying an insecticide to sugar beets is legal when it is labeled for use in the crop; however, if the specific target pest is not listed for sugar beets, effective control is not implied by the manufacturer, and growers who choose to use the product assume all liability for any unsatisfactory performance." *2022 Sugarbeet Production Guide*

Agricultural Department
Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative