

ALABAMA MOTH TRAP CATCH REPORT AND INSECT PEST UPDATE FOR JULY 17

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The cotton bollworm (CBW) moth trap catch for the 2nd week of July (7/3-7/10) was much higher in Elmore than all the other trapping sites. CBW numbers increased significantly from the previous week. However the CBW trap catch was significantly higher during the similar period in 2016 at 4 of the 6 trapping sites, especially in Baldwin and Autauga counties. The tobacco budworm moth trap catch for the 2nd week of July was much greater at the Henry county site than the other 3 sites and the Henry county site had significantly fewer TBW moths the 1st week of July 2017. Numbers of TBW moths at the Elmore, Autauga and Limestone sites were similar for the 1st and 2nd weeks of July 2017. The TBW trap catch numbers for the 2nd week of July in 2016 were lower than in 2017, especially in Henry county.

The soybean looper (SBL) moth trap catch numbers for the 2nd week of July 2017 were greatest at the Baldwin and Elmore county sites and numbers at all sites were similar to the previous week. During the 2nd week of July in 2016 the SBL trap catch was over 6 times greater in Baldwin county than for this period in 2017. SBL moth numbers were similar for the 2nd week of July in 2016 and 2017 at the other 3 trapping sites.

Tarnished plant bugs continue to be a concern for many cotton producers especially in north Alabama. We reported that last week tarnished plant bugs were especially damaging along cotton rows bordering corn. Growers should keep a very close eye on these cotton/corn border areas. Most cotton fields in north Alabama have received one to 2 sprays for plant bugs. A few fields with significant corn acres nearby have been sprayed 3 times. In central Alabama where plant bug pressure has not been as heavy, many fields have not yet been treated for plant bugs. Growers should monitor their fields closely as the plant bug population could increase as the immatures present in the field now become adults and begin to lay eggs. Sub-threshold levels of plant bugs in June may turn into above threshold levels in late July and August. This will more likely be an issue in April planted cotton. Once cotton begins to bloom individuals scouting cotton can look in the blooms for adult and immature plant bugs. Once you find plant bugs in 10 to 15% of the blooms treatment may be considered, especially if the plant bugs are puncturing 15% of the small bolls. Diamond insecticide at 6 oz/acre would be a good addition to a spray treatment to give control of immature plant bugs. Stink bugs are also starting to move into older cotton and will be puncturing some small bolls. Bidrin and Orthene will control both stink bugs and plant bugs. Pyrethroids are not as effective in controlling stink bugs. Bifenthrin has not controlled plant bugs in much of north Alabama during the last two years. Efficacy of bifenthrin against plant bugs in central Alabama has been acceptable to date.

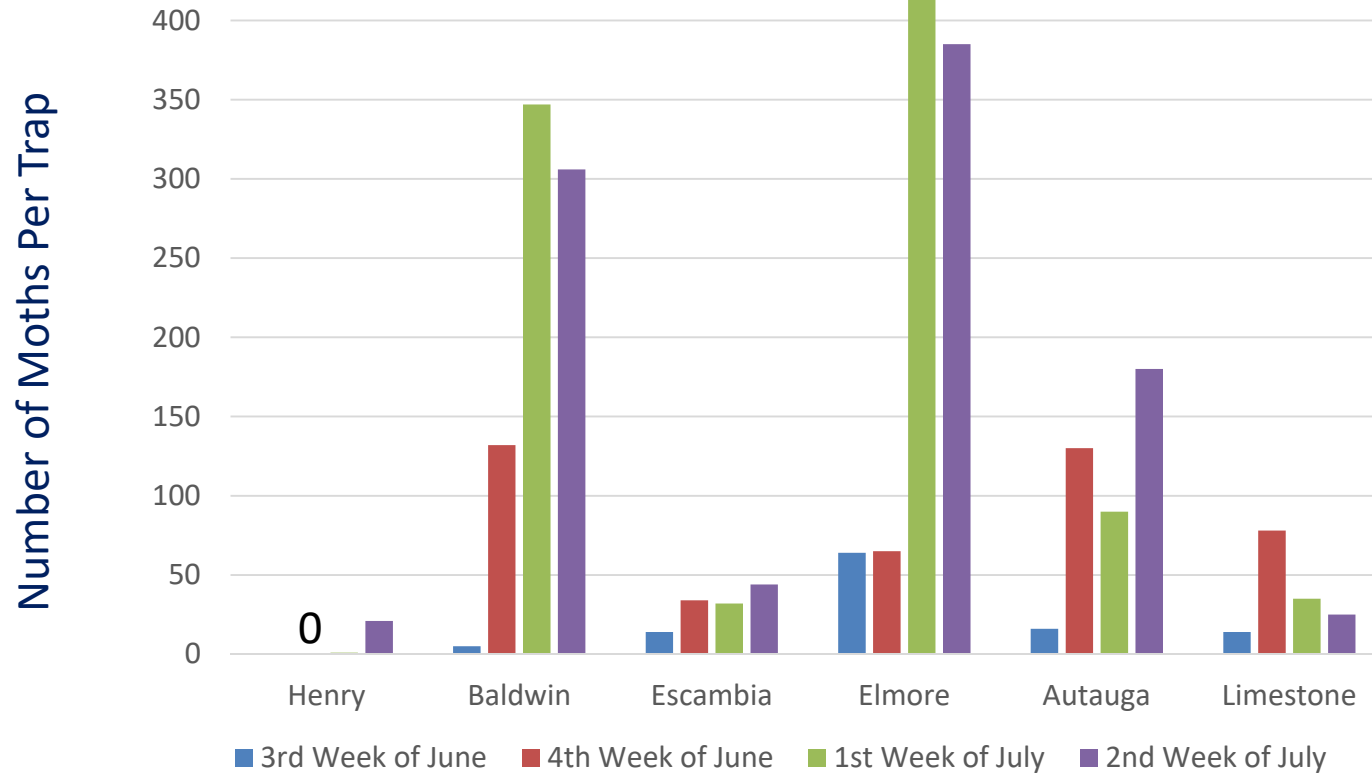
Kudzu bugs are another pest that are present across the state in soybeans. Soybeans planted behind wheat have a threshold of 5 kudzu bugs per plant prior to first bloom. Kudzu bugs have exceeded the economic threshold in pre-blooming soybeans in a test plot at the Headland station (Henry county). After blooming begins treat kudzu bugs when densities reach 10 kudzu bugs per sweep net sweep across two rows. Kudzu bug density in test plots at the Prattville station has been at 5 per sweep for the previous 2 weeks. The first immature kudzu bug was collected at Prattville last week. No fungal disease had been observed in soybeans at the Prattville station through last week but the disease has been found in one other location. The *Beauveria* fungus should become much more prevalent by the end of July, especially in areas with abundant rain and high humidity. The brown marmorated stink bug has been positively IDed in 24 Alabama counties. They are very abundant in corn at the Prattville station and

there are likely other areas where numbers are building. Red banded stink bugs were found on podded soybeans in the Headland area last week by regional agronomist Brandon Dillard. Prior to this the red banded stink bugs had been abundant in alfalfa.

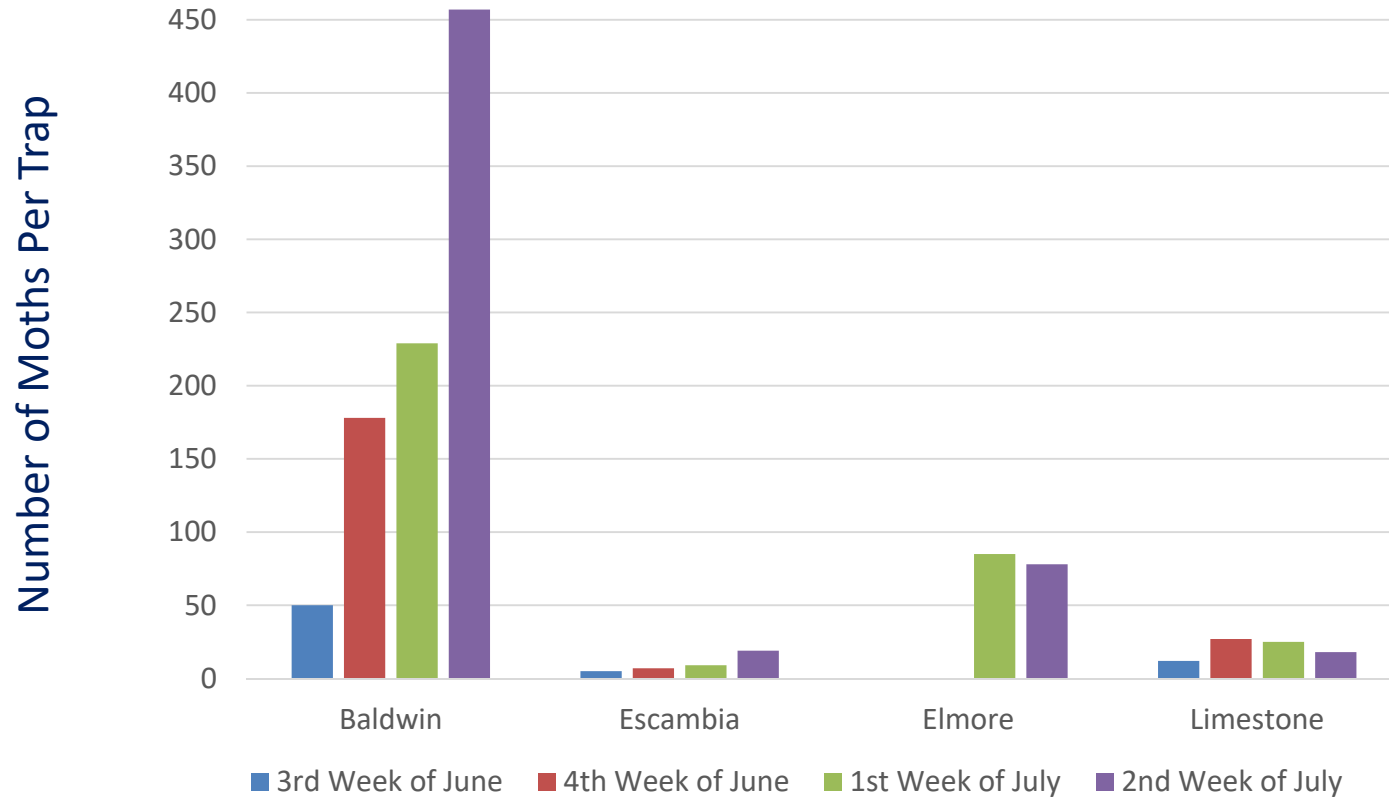
Cursor down to see data on moth activity for week 2 of July, 2016 & 2017.



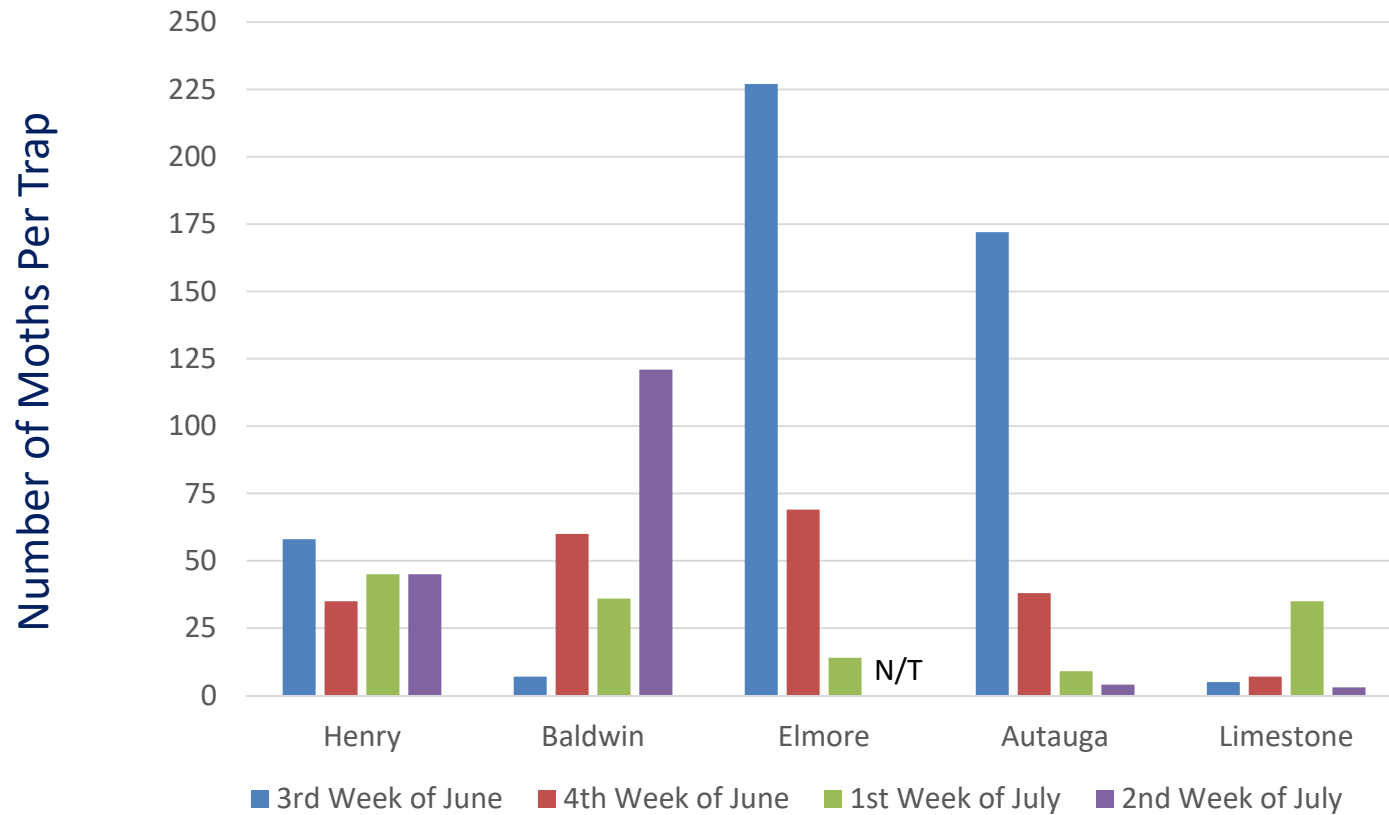
Cotton Bollworm Moths per Trap by Location, 2016



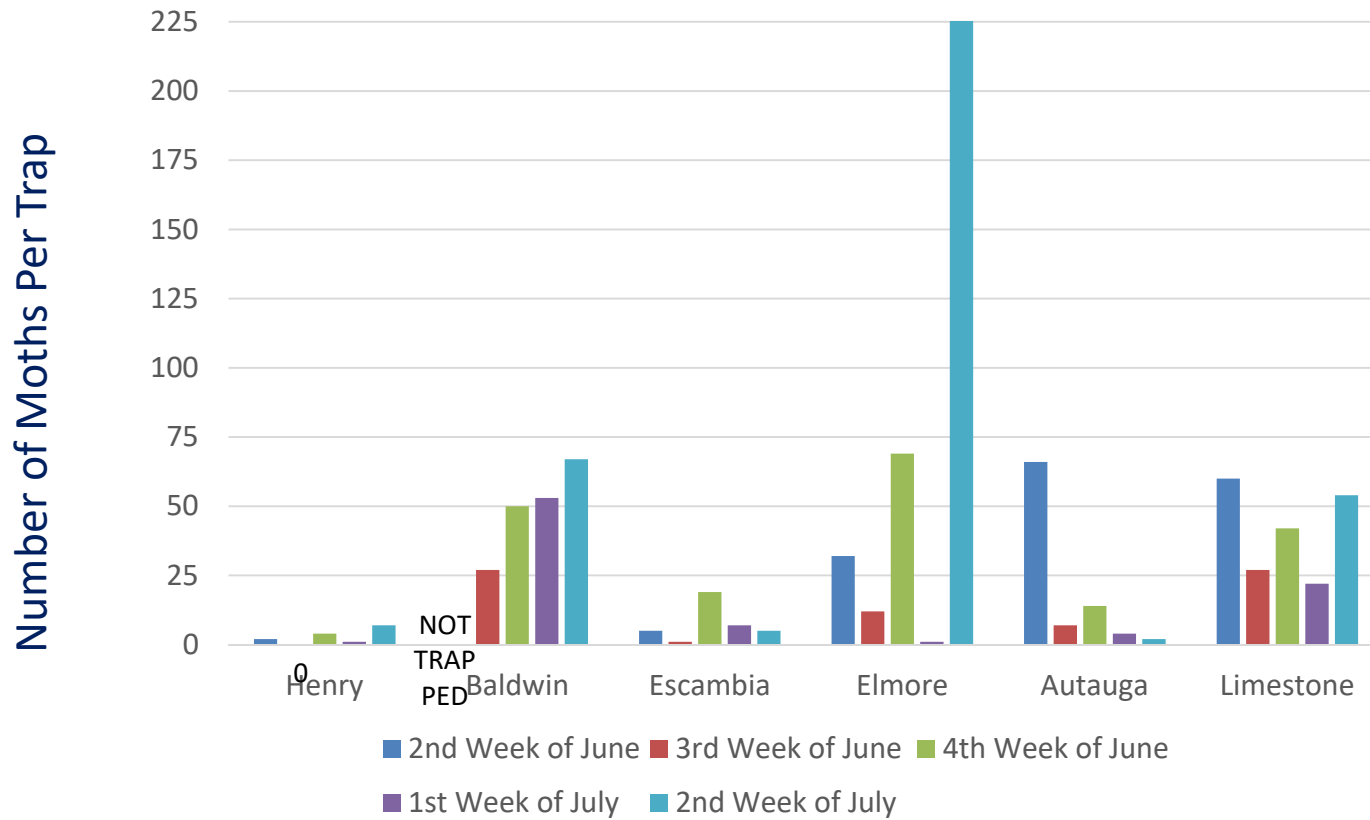
Soybean Looper Moths per Trap by Location, 2016



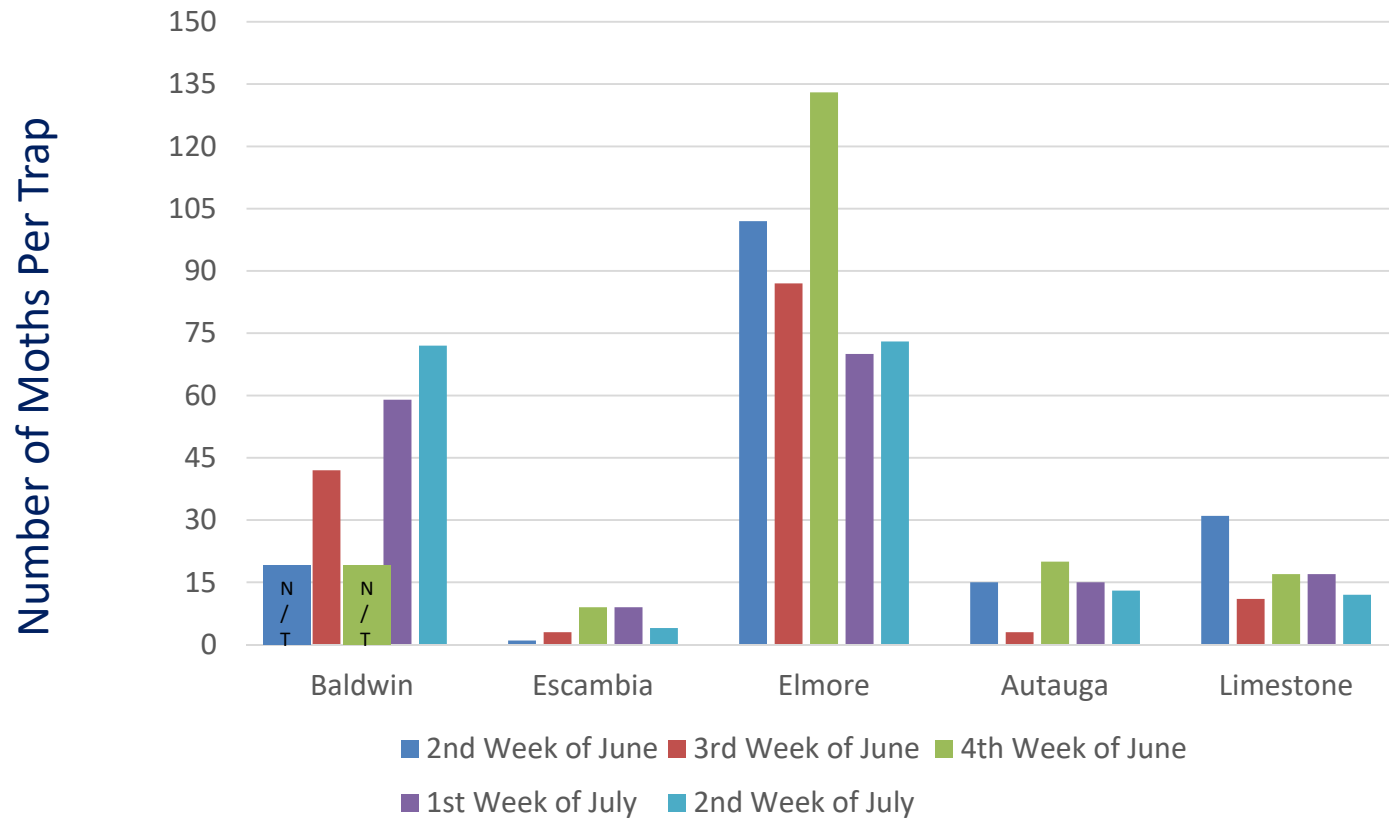
Tobacco Budworm Moths per Trap by Location, 2016



Cotton Bollworm Moths per Trap by Location, 2017



Soybean Looper Moths per Trap by Location, 2017



Tobacco Budworm Moths per Trap by Location, 2017

