

# GAINING INSIGHT INTO INSECT CONTROL



SOYBEAN RESEARCH &  
**INFORMATION  
NETWORK**

Insects can attack soybeans throughout the growing season, putting yield and quality in ongoing danger. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) allows farmers to use information regarding potential insect infestation and environmental conditions to treat and minimize possible crop damage.



## CONSIDER THESE FOUR ACTIONS

Successful IPM strategies generally include taking one or more of these actions:

### Evaluate prevention-based strategies.

IPM strategies that help prevent or minimize insect damage include planting insect-tolerant soybean varieties, crop rotation, residue management and changing planting dates, along with sound agronomic practices.

### Monitor and identify pests.

Scouting fields on a regular basis lets farmers quickly identify pests for more effective and economic treatment options.

### Apply action thresholds.

Economic thresholds have been established for most insects. When insect populations reach or exceed such thresholds, treatments should be made

### Consider chemical control options.

When control is needed, choose appropriate insecticides for pests present. Rotating modes of action can delay resistance development.



## EYE INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Soybean checkoff-funded research across the country focuses on finding new ways to solve old problems and address emerging concerns. For example, scouting to efficiently identify insects is easier and more timely now with the use of apps and drones. Real-time pest alerts and dispersal direction capabilities and determining insecticide overapplications are all under evaluation.

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The Soybean Research and Information Network (SRIN) is a joint effort of the North Central Soybean Research Program and United Soybean Board. The online resource contains checkoff-funded soybean production challenge research findings with direct links to the respective underlying scientific studies housed in the National Soybean Checkoff Research Database.

## WATCH FOR NEW CHALLENGES

Traditionally, soybean farmers have not had many insects on their management radar. However, climate change has expanded the range of established insects and created such new problems as:

- Spider mites
- Bean leaf beetles
- Stink bugs
- Japanese beetles

