

Thistle Caterpillar Present in Soybeans in Northeast Kansas

By Martin Holthaus, Ag Partners Crop Protection Manager

Recently, Ag Partners has been receiving reports from our agronomists that



Thistle Caterpillar is being seen throughout Northeast Kansas. These larvae feed on soybeans leaves and if there are enough of them in your field, they can have a negative impact on yields. Thistle Caterpillars are easily identified by the obvious branching spines along the length of its body and their colors rang from green to black to almost white. These caterpillars web the soybean leaves together and can be found inside this makeshift home until they have eaten the leaves on the plant, then they move on and make a new home. The caterpillars will feed for 4-6 weeks unit they pupate for approximately 10 days and turn into a Painted Lady Butterfly.

The economic threshold is typically around 30-40 percent defoliation in the vegetative stages, and 20 percent in the reproductive stages. To date, Ag Partners has seen some fields surpass this threshold and the plants will soon be entering the reproductive stages on some early planted beans, so you need to be out scouting to determine if you need to treat your soybean fields. A word of caution regarding adding an insecticide to every acre (just because you are spraying it anyways), is that you will kill all the beneficial insects as well. This could lead to an increase in spider mite populations if the summer weather becomes hot and dry.

When treating for Thistle Caterpillars, most pyrethroid type products will control the problem. At Ag Partners, we recommend using 1.6-2 oz of Baythroid XL, as it is approved for tankmix with Xtendimax allowing us to make one trip across the field.

If you have any questions, please contact your local Ag Partners agronomist.

June Energy Update



The month of June started off very well for the Energy Department. The much needed break in the rainy weather allowed the farmers to get moving. This in turn allowed for our trucks to move as well.

[Read More](#)

Wamego Open House

June 29, 2019 from 8:00am-2:00pm
200 East Valley, Wamego, KS 66547
785-456-9600



YOU'RE INVITED! | SUMMER OPEN HOUSE

Ag Partners-Wamego
Saturday, June 29, 2019
8:00 am - 2:00 pm
200 East Valley, Wamego, KS 66547
785-456-9600

OPEN HOUSE SPECIALS

\$5 20 lb. propane grill bottle fill-up. <small>(Valid One Per Customer)</small>	BBQ Lunch Provided by Ag Partners	\$7 50 lb. BULK Range Cubes <small>(Must provide own trailer or storage container)</small>
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Fungicide Informational Meeting by Ag Partners Agronomist, Nicholas Blevins

Tuesday, July 2 at 11:00 am. Lunch provided at the Highland Community Center, 501 West Ave. Highland, KS 66035

Response to Fungicide: Protect your Seed Investment from Disease

Plant health is vital for growers to produce a sustainable and profitable crop. To be proactive, growers can apply a fungicide to corn at tassel to prevent against diseases and improve plant standability. In this video Nicholas Blevins, Ag Partners Agronomist, and Eric Puckett, District Sales Manager (DSM) with WinField United, discuss various corn hybrids and their response to fungicide.



[Watch Video](#)