

## **Alfalfa Weevil**

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It's time to start scouting for alfalfa weevil larvae. They have been hatching throughout south central and north central Kansas for the last couple of weeks. First larvae/feeding was reported on March 15 from south central and on March 21 in north central parts of the state.

The easiest way to find new larvae is to note small, pinprick sized holes in alfalfa leaves and/or brooming feeding damage on the tips of new terminals. Larval hatching and subsequent feeding will only increase as temperatures increase.

Please remember to utilize whatever treatment threshold that has been successful for you in the past, not just spraying because your neighbor is. K-State Research and Extension Entomology Specialists recommend treatment at 33-50% infestation level using the stem count bucket sampling method.

Additionally, it is important to spray with an adequate amount of carrier, i.e. water, to achieve good coverage. Following application and the reentry interval for the product used, continue to monitor for eggs that may continue to hatch for another few weeks, or until swathing. Always check the preharvest interval on the product of your choice as well.

For more information, please contact the local K-State Research and Extension Office. K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.