### Plant Bug Management in the Midsouth

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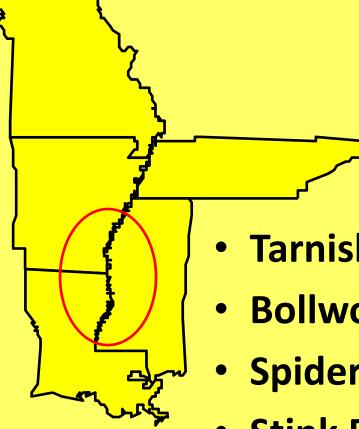


UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE Cooperative Extension Service

## A Changing Production System

- Recent changes in the midsouth production system including transgenics, BWE, shifting crop acreages, increased cost of production, have changed the pest status and population dynamics of many of our pests
- These changes necessitate the need for reevaluation of thresholds, sampling procedures and control tactics to meet the current needs of growers in Arkansas and the Midsouth
- New insecticides and the rising cost of tech. fees mandates the constant need for reevaluation of current pest mgmt practices

## 2009 Cotton Insect Losses MS Delta





- Tarnished Plant Bug= \$20,392,404
- Bollworm/Budworm= \$3,861,684
- Spider Mites= \$2,657,774
- Stink Bugs= **\$2,323,851**
- Average # of Sprays 6.5 for TPB
- \$75/ Acre

MULTISTATE EVALUATION of Tarnished Plant Bug Sampling Methods in Blooming Cotton





Represents the first collective effort of the Midsouth Research and Extension Entomologists to begin addressing the current need to work on sampling and thresholds.

# **Objectives**

- Identify efficient and accurate TPB sampling methods in cotton
- Verify or adjust current TPB thresholds
- Standardize recommended scouting procedures and thresholds in the midsouth









Our Experiences in the Past Several Years Tell Us It Will Take a Program Approach to Achieve Acceptable Control of Plant Bugs.....

So, What Can We Do? Starts with Landscape Awareness and Cultural Control

### Change in Production and Shifts in Pest Status

 Has resulted in achieving timely burndown of broadleaf weeds <u>in and around</u> fields becoming one of the most important cultural practices for growers and consultants in insect pest mgmt today... "avoiding the green bridge"





# Wild Hosts for TPB

 Sampling conducted by the USDA researchers has shown tarnished plant bugs can be found on more than 350 species of wild host plants. In early spring, this can include buttercup, evening primrose, butterweed, annual fleabane, sourdock, vetch, crimson clover and cutleaf evening primrose





# Burndown and Insect Pest Management

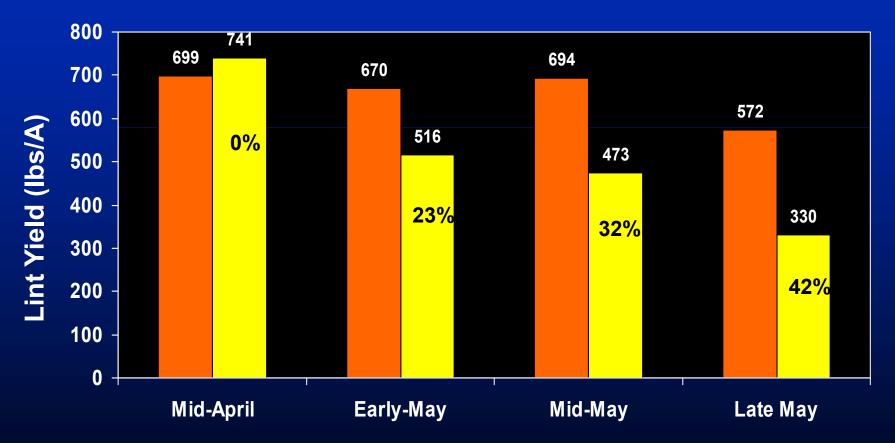
- Be aware of the importance and significance of achieving timely burndown and how to achieve it
- All broadleaf weeds in and around field should be controlled at least 3 weeks prior to planting, applications made 4-6 wks prior to planting
- Many of these pests are very mobile and areas of potential sources for these pests should be scouted (adjacent crops, levees, ditch banks, fallow fields, CRP, WRP, etc.)
- If burndown is not effective or regrowth occurs an insecticide/ miticide application may be needed

# **Edge Effects**

### Impact of Planting Date on TPB

Treated

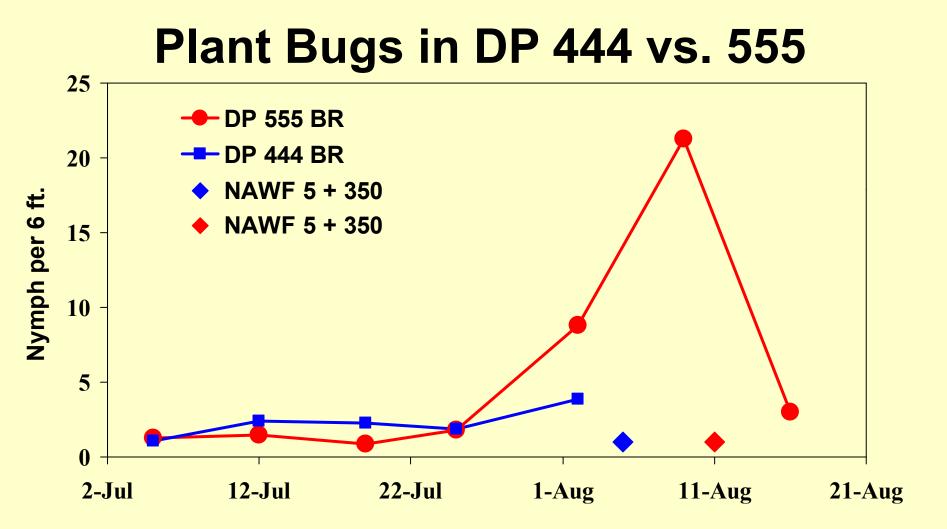
Untreated



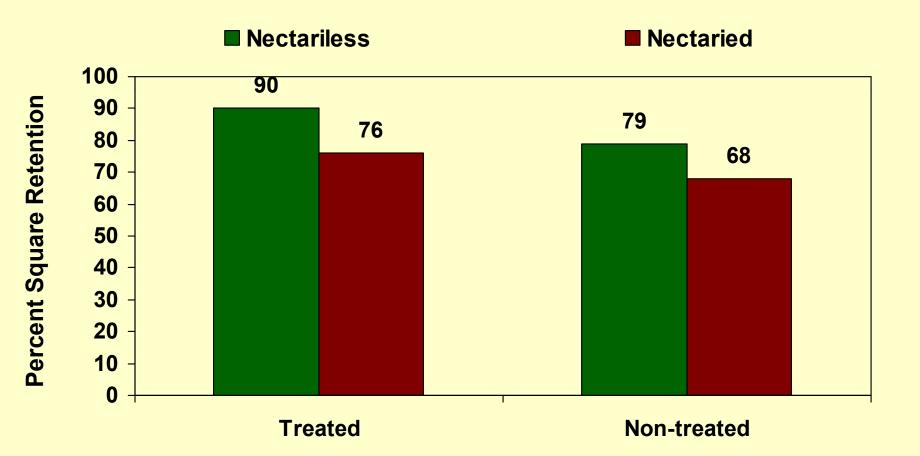
Treated plots were sprayed once or twice per week throughout the season.

Jeff Gore, MSU

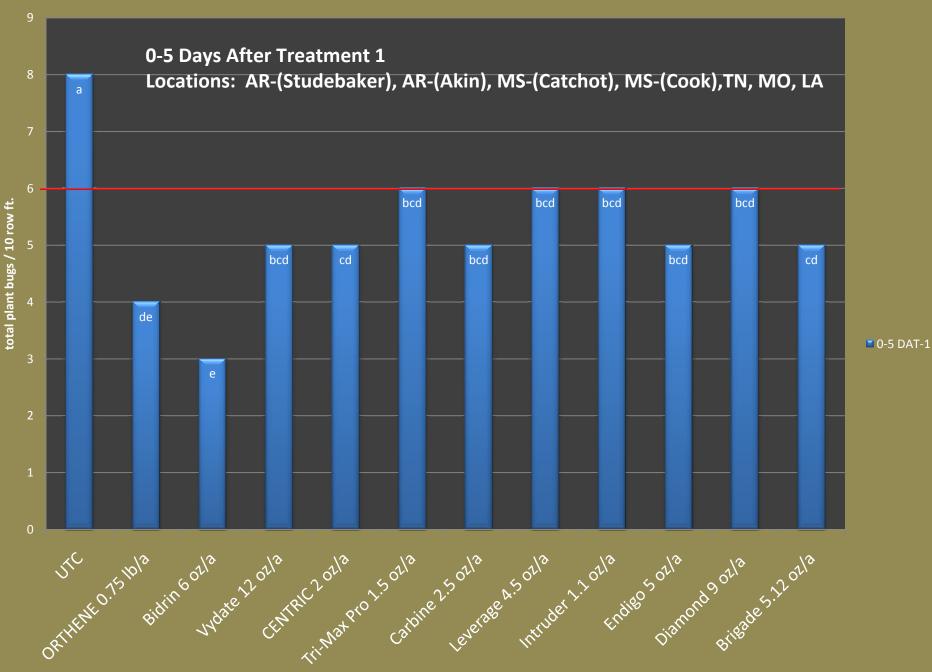
## **Variety Selection**



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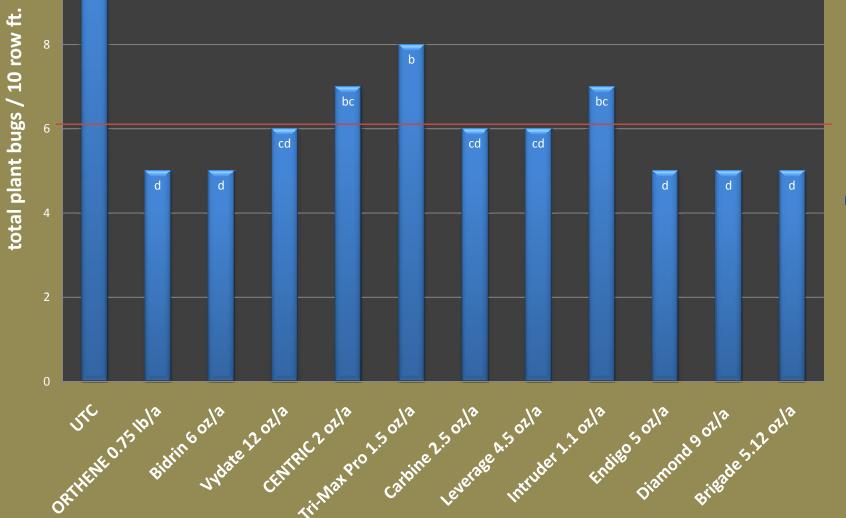


### Regional Plant Bug Efficacy Trial, 2009

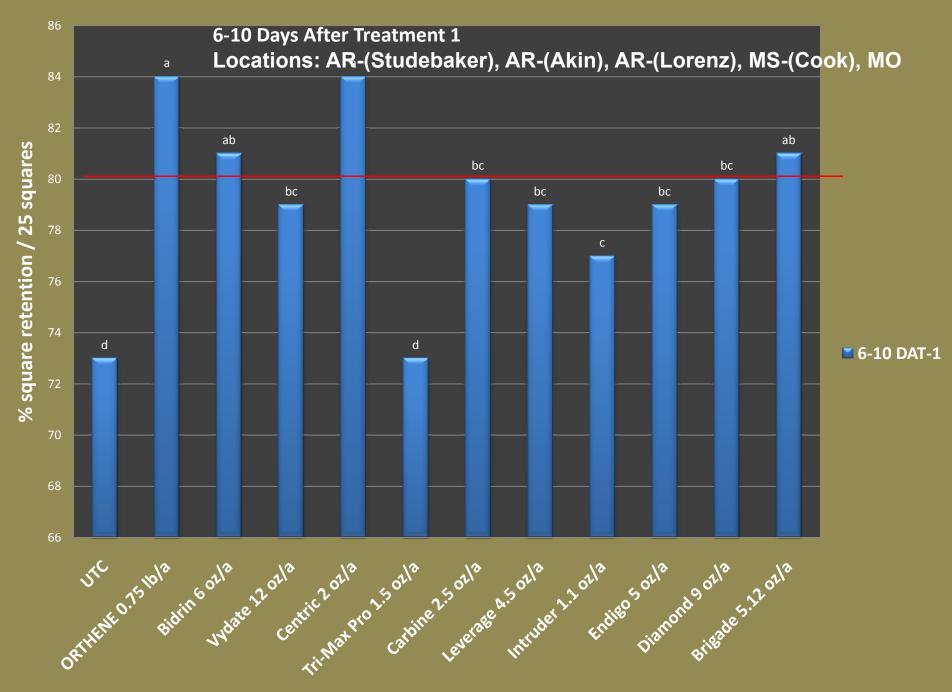


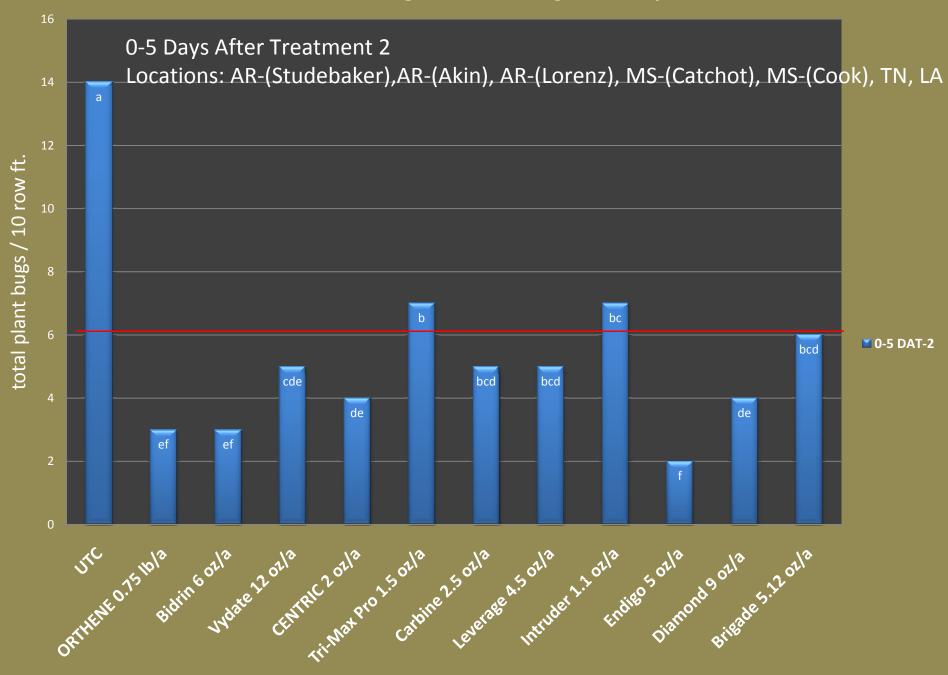
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6-10 Days After Treatment 1 Locations: AR-(Studebaker), AR-(Akin), AR(Lorenz), MS-(Cook), TN, MO, LA

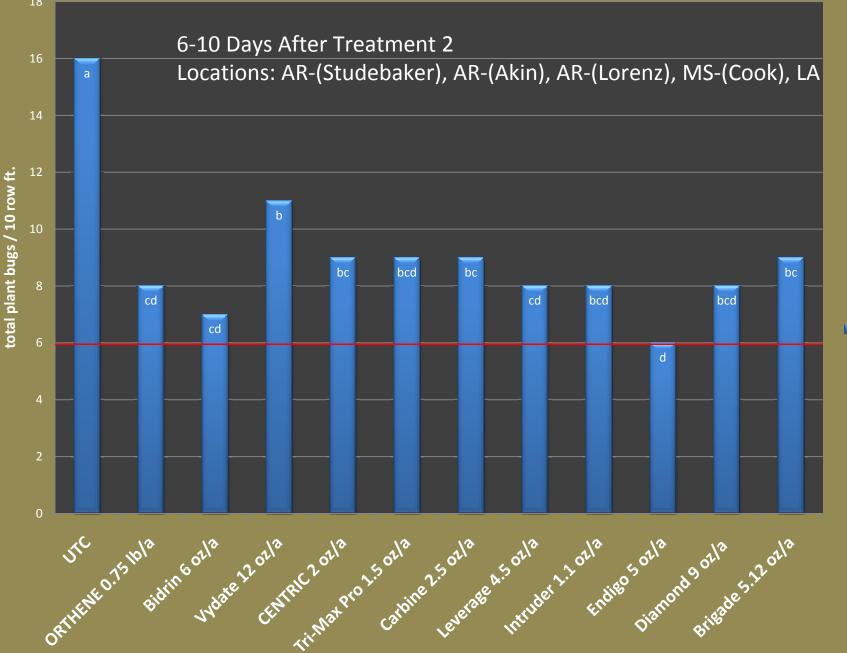


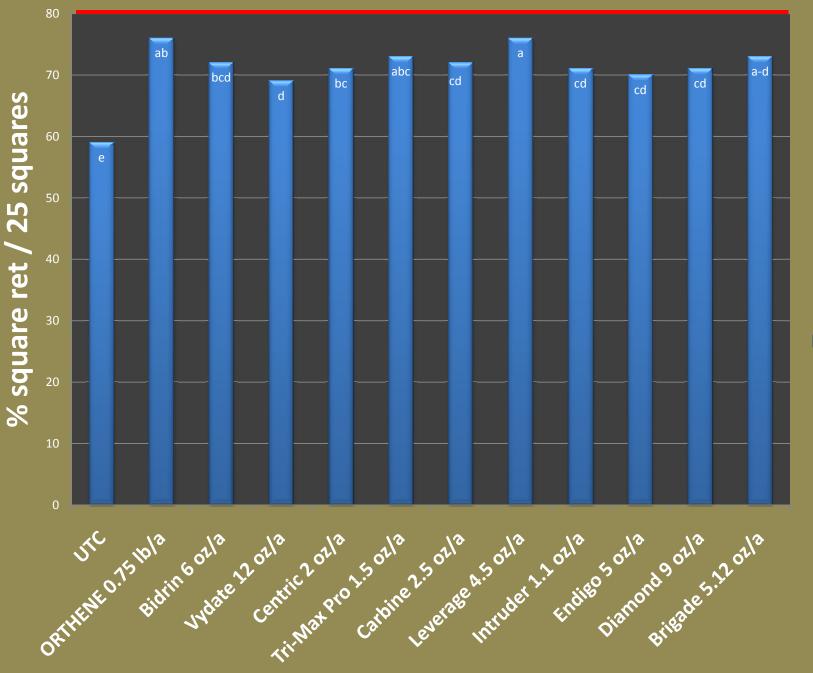
**Across Location Regional Plant Bug Summary 2009** 





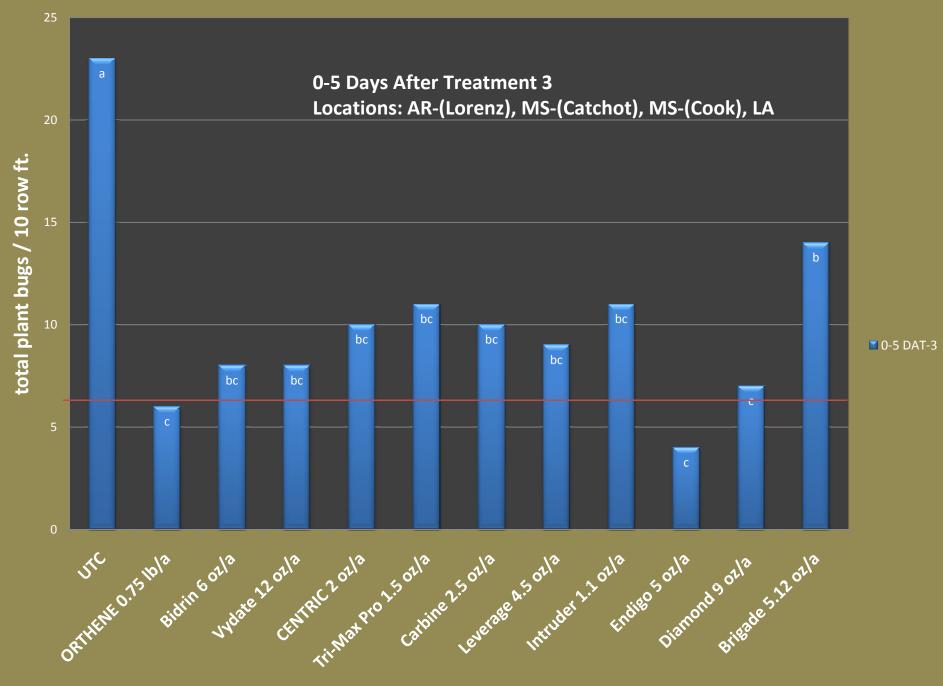
**Across Location Regional Plant Bug Summary 2009** 

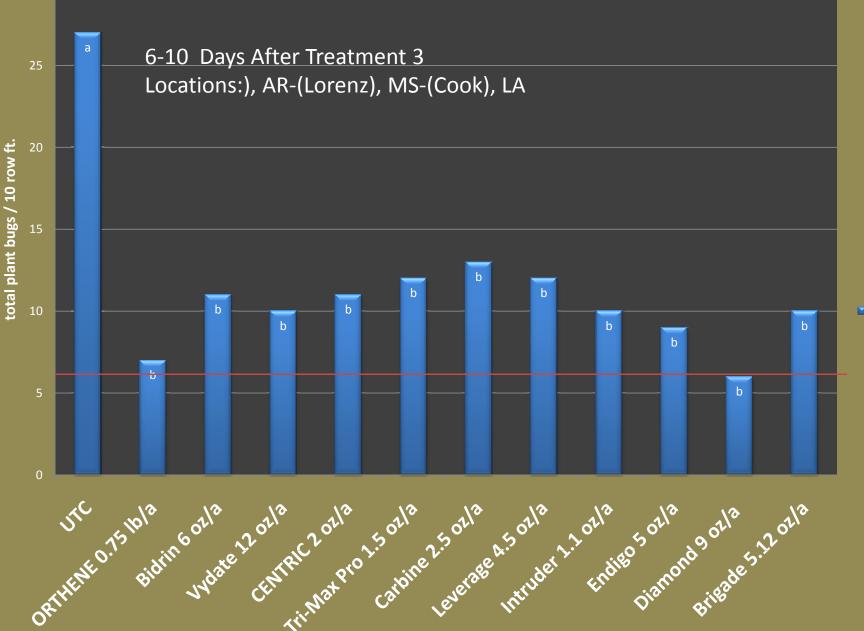


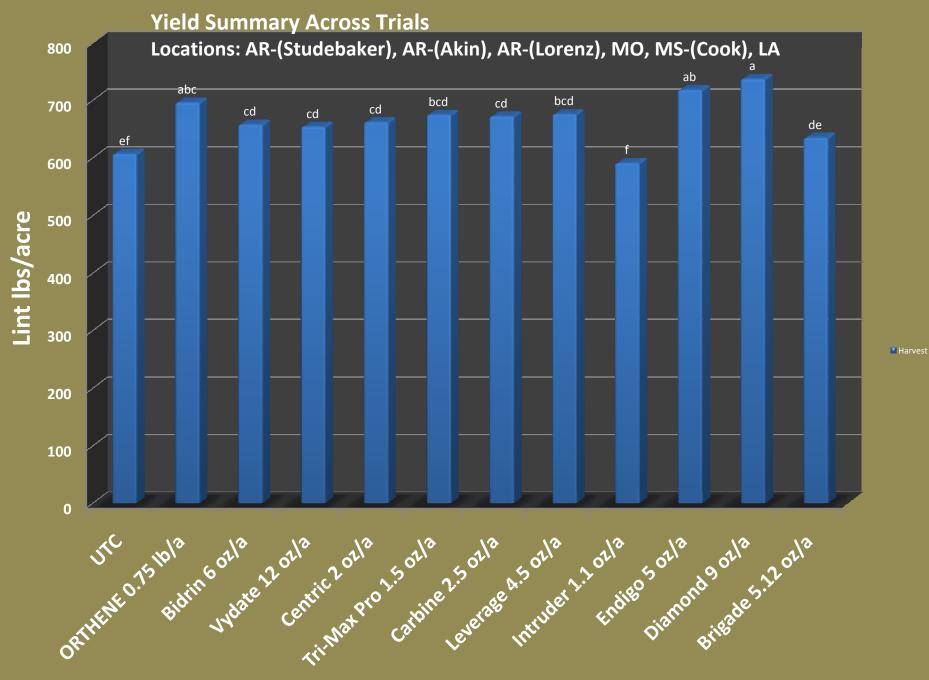


**Across Location Regional Plant Bug Summary 2009** 

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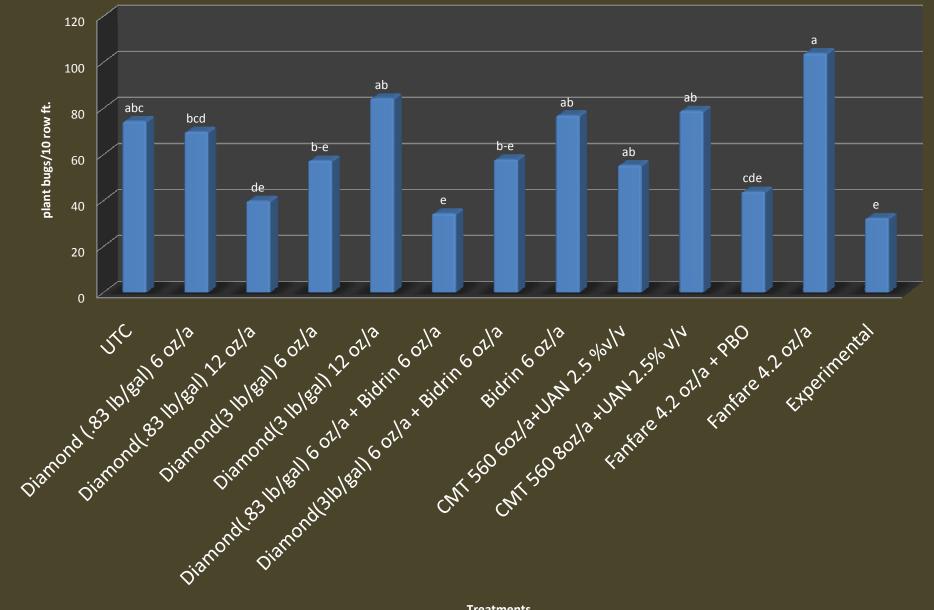
# **Summary on Regional Trial**

- None of the treatments effectively controlled plant bug numbers
- Square retention numbers indicate we lost yield in all treatments
- Best efficacy didn't necessarily equate to highest yield
- Standards didn't do as good as expected
- Points out the need for additional/ new products
- Shows need for rotation of chemistries

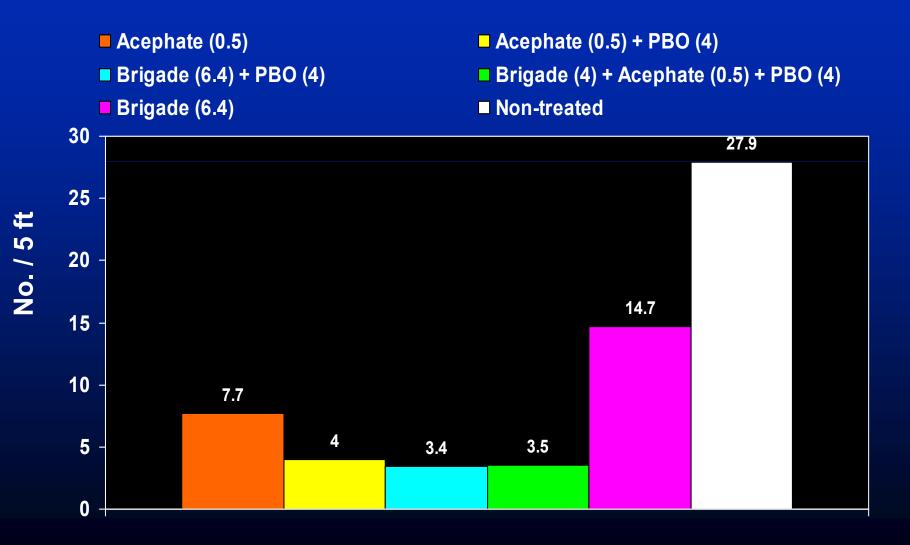
### What Can We Do to Improve Control?

- Old Chemistry- PBO, ULV Malathion
- New Chemistry Sulfoxaflor
- Figure out how to use existing products-Diamond
- Rotate Chemistry
- Tankmixing

### **Diamond Plant Bug 3 Season Total Plant Bugs**

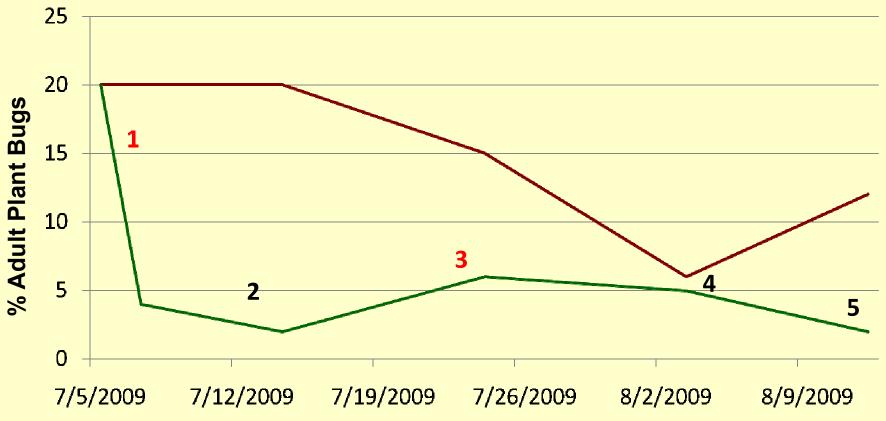


### Plant Bug Control with PBO 2 DAT2



# Tarnished Plant Bug Management with ULV Applications

—Pre Count —Post Count

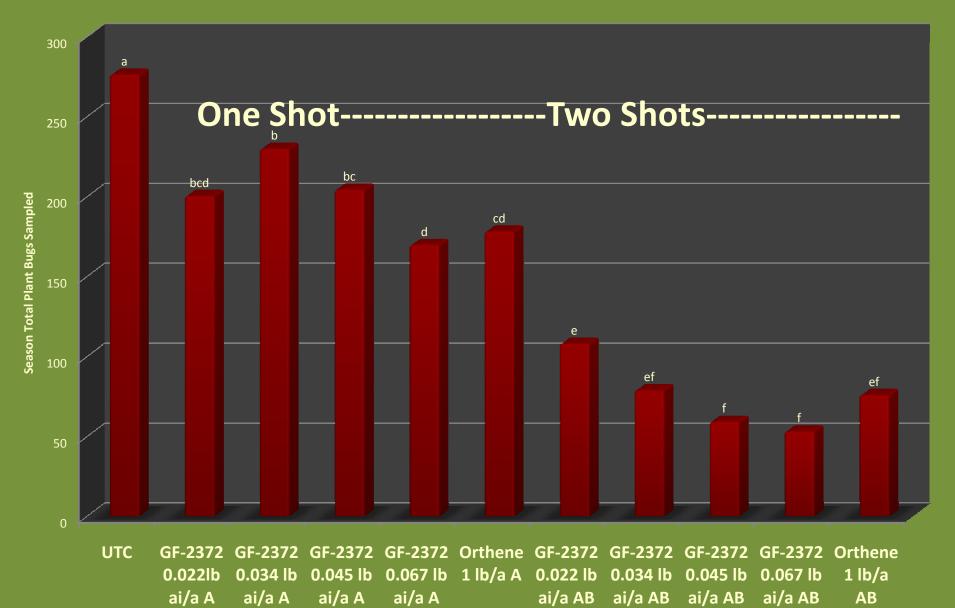


1= Declare + ULV, 2= Centric 2 oz + Brigade 1:24 + Intruder 1.0 oz., 3= Declare + ULV, 4= Centric 2 oz. + Karate 1:64, 5= Orthene 0.8 lb + Diamond 5 oz.

# = sprays based on pre-counts

# Sulfoxaflor

#### Dow Plant Bug at Marianna Season Total



Treatments

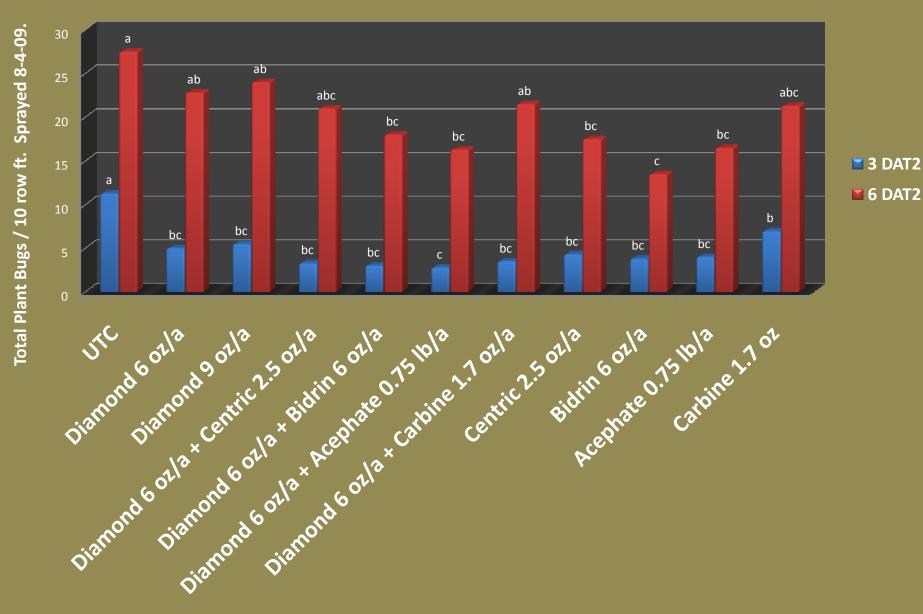
#### Dow Plant Bug Harvest



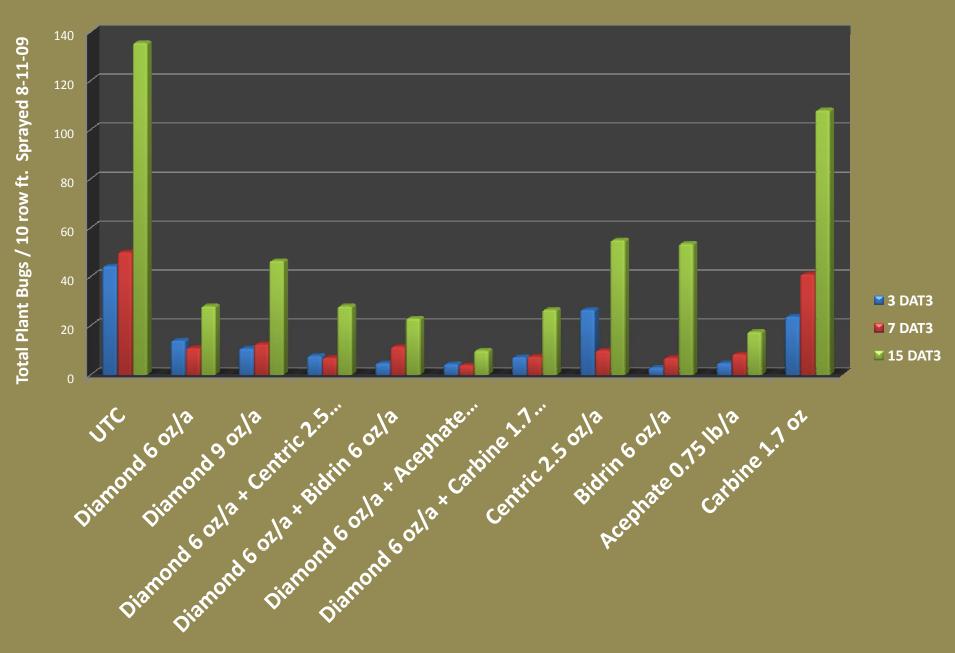
Treatments

Diamond

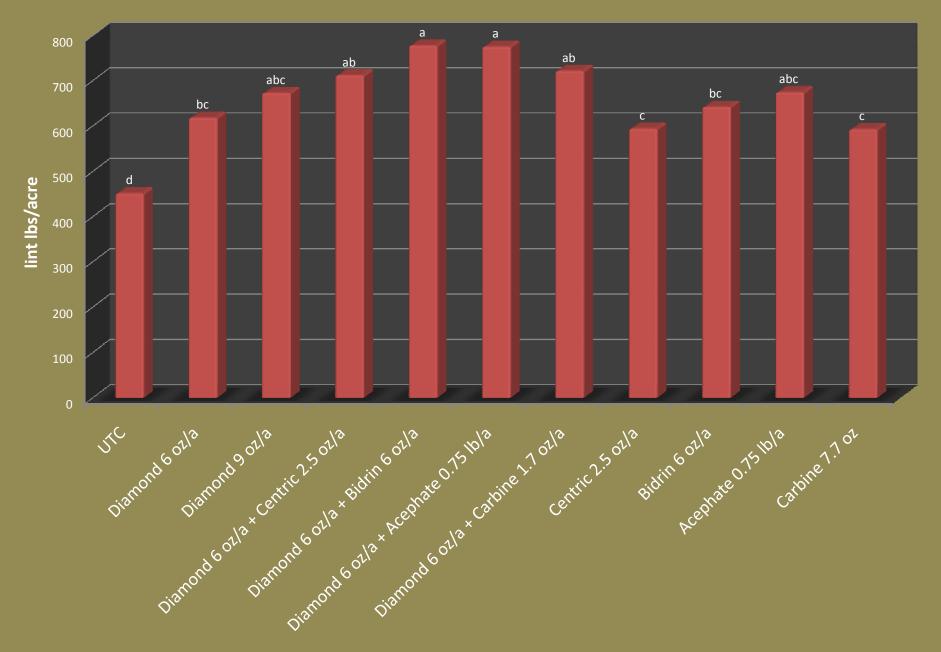
#### Diamond Plant Bug at Marianna Total Plant Bugs After 2nd Application - 8/4/09



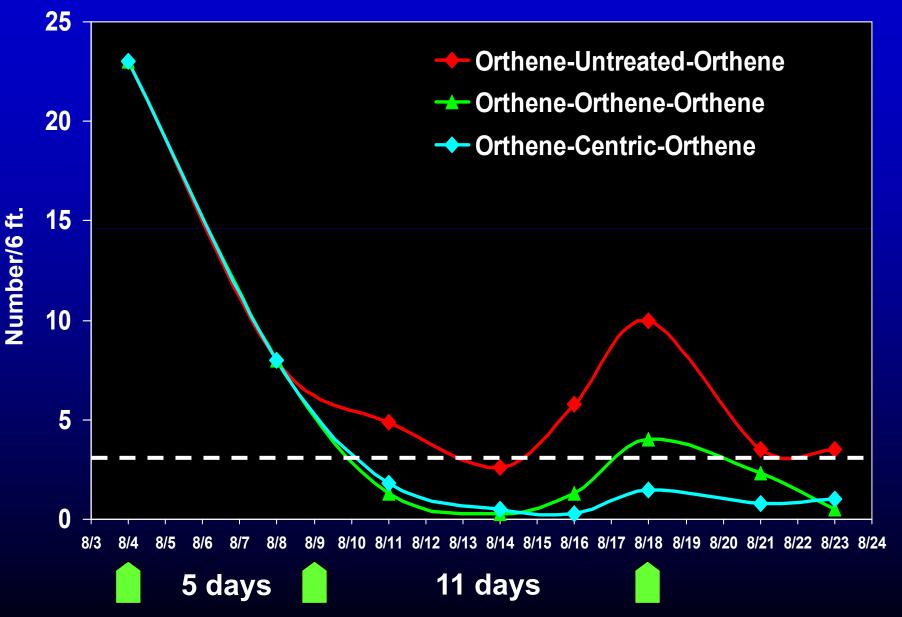
#### Diamond Plant Bug @ Marianna Total Plant Bugs After 3rd Application - 8/11/09



### Diamond Plant Bug at Marianna Harvest Data



### **Insecticide Rotations**



## **Summary and Conclusions**

- Standard insecticides do not provide the same level of control they once did.
- Tank mixes and pre-mixes will be important.
- Crop maturity impacts tarnished plant bug management.
- Plant based thresholds such as dirty squares or square damage will become important given the current levels of resistance.

### **Summary and Conclusions**

 New management options will not be available in the near future.

 An integrated approach that relies on many different tactics in addition to chemical insecticides will be the only way to economically and effectively manage tarnished plant bugs.

There's no silver bullets out there