

New Look for Illinois Pest Degree Calculator Provides More Options for Specialty Crop Growers

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Pest Degree-Day Tools for Specialty Crop Growers

- Update target pest lists, focusing on specialty crops
- Improve current tools
 - Maintain historical and forecast degree-day information
- Integrate new tools
 - Maps
 - Graphs
 - Mobile-friendly



Improving the Degree-Day Calculator

2019 Goals/Activities

- Surveys: face-to-face grower meetings, print & electronic media and well as social media outlets.
- Summaries
- Evaluation

Improving the Degree-Day Calculator

2020

- Putting the feedback into action
- Website redevelopment started
- Our goal was to have this ready to roll out for growers at the January 2021 conference...but COVID.

Illinois Climate Network: Daily Pest Degree-Day Calculator

Choose a pest.

- alfalfa weevil
- Apple maggot
- Bean leaf beetle
- Black cutworm
- Cereal leaf beetle
- Codling moth
- Colorado potato beetle
- Corn earworm
- Corn leaf girdler

Click the nearest station (dot).

UNDER CONSTRUCTION!

Degree days aid in crop and pest management

- Forecast important life stages of insect pests
- Aid in timing activities such as scouting or pesticide applications

What drives development of an organism?

The development rate of many biological organisms is controlled primarily by temperature

Models are used to calculate developmental units, known as **degree days**

Degree days can be used to measure (and predict) the development of an organism based on current and historical data

Degree-day Refresher

Degree-days are measurements of heat units over time, calculated from daily minimum and maximum temperatures.

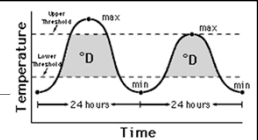
Used to predict insect life cycles and in turn, insecticide treatments to those life cycles.

Insect Degree days

- Similar to plants, there are minimum and maximum temperatures at which development slows or stops
- Minimum and maximum temperatures for development vary by insect
 - Values developed based on controlled experiments in the laboratory

Degree days - insects

$$DD = \frac{T_{max} + T_{min}}{2} - T_{base}$$



Tmax – Daily Maximum Temperature

Tmin – Daily Minimum Temperature

Tbase – baseline or the lower developmental threshold (varies by insect)

Example

For example, a day where the high is 72F and the low is 44F would accumulate 8 degree days using 50F as the baseline:

$$DD = \frac{72+44}{2} - 50 = 8 \text{ DD}$$

Example

For example, a day where the high is 98F and the low is 44F, but the upper developmental threshold for an insect is 90F, would accumulate 18 degree days using 50F as the baseline:

$$DD = \frac{90+44}{2} - 50 = 18 \text{ DD}$$

Degree days

When do they begin accumulating?

Biofix

- An observable biological event that determines when DD accumulations begin for a particular insect
- Often the capture of insects in a pheromone trap

Calendar date

- Date varies by insect
- Often January 1 or March 1



Illinois Pest Degree Day Calculator

<http://www.isws.illinois.edu/warm/pestdata/>



Calculating Degree Days for Codling Moth

Calculating Degree Days for Codling Moth

Illinois Climate Network: Accumulated Degree Days, Results

Accum Deg Days	Generation	First Occurrence	Days	General Activity
0	1	1st significant moth flight	8-14	mating & egg laying
158	1	egg	21	egg hatch
429	1	larva	12-21	mating & egg laying
1000	1	pupa - 350K		
1118	2	egg	28	egg hatch

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Illinois Climate Network: Daily Pest Degree Day calculator

Pest Degree Day Calculators

Choose Calculator:

Seasonal Maps

Choose Map:

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 Specialty Crop Pests

Seasonal Maps

Choose Map:

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