

Sample Syllabus:
Management of Agronomic Crop Insects
Entomology 825
Department of Entomology
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Course Information

Instructor:

Robert Wright, Professor
Department of Entomology
213 Entomology Hall
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Lincoln NE 68583-0816
Telephone: 402-472-2128 FAX: 402-472-4687
Email: rwright2@unl.edu

Teaching assistant:

Terry DeVries, Entomology Research Analyst
UNL South Central Agricultural Laboratory
842 Road 313
Clay Center NE 68933-0066
Phone: 402-762-4405
FAX: 402-762-4411
Email: tdevries1@unl.edu

Other Course Contacts:

Tom Weissling, Distance Education Coordinator
Department of Entomology
202 Entomology Hall
Lincoln, NE 68583-0816
Telephone: (402) 472-8680
Fax: (402) 472-4687
E-mail: ent-distance@unlnotes.unl.edu

Leslie Delserone
Asst. Professor/Entomology Librarian
University Libraries
210 C.Y. Thompson Library
Lincoln, NE 68583-0717
Telephone: (402) 472-6297
E-mail: ldelserone2@unl.edu
Website for Entomology online resources <http://unl.libguides.com/entomology>

About the Course

This course will focus on identification, biology, ecology and management of insect pests of agronomic crops, including, corn, soybeans, alfalfa, wheat and sorghum. Emphasis will be on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies employed to maintain pests below damaging levels while minimizing the use of traditional insecticides.

This course assumes a basic understanding of insect biology and taxonomy and the basic principles of IPM. Previous coursework such as ENT 412/812 (Entomology and Pest Management), ENT 811 (Insect ID and Natural History), ENT 403/803 (Management of Horticultural Insects), or a similar course is suggested.

Learning Objectives

After completing the course, you should be able to:

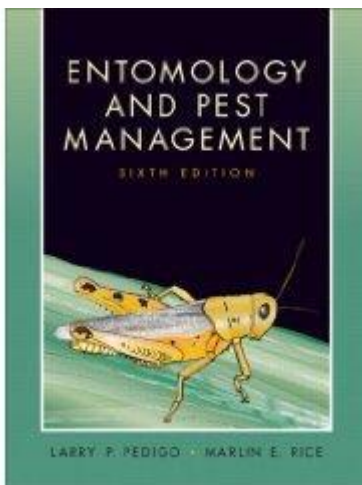
1. recognize beneficial and harmful arthropods associated with agronomic crops
2. explain the biology and ecology of arthropods associated with agronomic crops
3. characterize types of plant injury and associate it with the arthropod pest that is responsible
4. describe management tactics that are used to minimize injury by arthropod pests

Instructional Method

There are 30 lectures, each ca. 60 minutes in length, that must be viewed as part of course requirements. These presentations will be supplemented with readings from internet websites and other selected references. Each student is expected to take good lecture notes and to complete all reading assignments. Items covered in lectures, but not covered in the assigned readings or handouts are fair game for examination material. Further, all reading material will not be discussed in class lectures, but the student is still responsible for being familiar with these parts of the assignments. All students are expected to conduct independent library research.

Textbooks

There is no required textbook. This book is recommended if you have a weak background in Entomology or IPM.



Pedigo, Larry P. and Marlin E. Rice. 2009. Entomology and Pest Management, 6th Edition, Pearson Prentice Hall. ISBN 978-0-13-513295-1

Student Assignments and Exams

See Blackboard site (my.unl.edu) for additional information on scheduling and due dates

Exams: There will be 4 exams (1 mid-term and 1 final), each of which is worth 100 points. Question formats will include definitions, short and intermediate length completion and essay formats. They will be open book.

IPM Summaries: Each student will prepare an IPM summary for 5 agronomic insects for which he/she will gather the following information: identifying characteristics for damaging stages, description of damage, summary of life cycle, procedures for scouting, assessment (sampling) of populations, recognized economic thresholds, and a list of feasible management methods/control measures. Each summary will be worth 20 points.

Literature report: One or more IPM publications will be posted on the Blackboard site, and each student will be expected to write short report responding to questions related to the document. The report will be worth 100 points.

Library Research Paper: Each student will be expected to write and submit one high quality, in-depth library research paper. The topic for the paper will be chosen by each student, but must be approved by the instructors in advance. Any course-related topic of special interest to the student can be considered. The term paper will be worth 100 points.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has a policy about academic dishonesty, as indicated in the Student Code of Conduct (<http://stuafs.unl.edu/ja/code>). As a student at UNL, you enjoy rights and protections under the code and are obligated to conduct yourself in compliance with the code.

As the Student Code of Conduct indicates, academic sanctions for misconduct subject to appeal are at the discretion of the instructor, and may include giving the student a failing grade for the course. In this course, the least penalty that will be imposed for misconduct is a one letter grade reduction in the course grade, but in most instances the penalty for cheating will be a failing grade in the course.

Grading

Midterm exams	300 points
Final Exam	100 points
IPM Summaries	100 points
Literature report	100 points
Library Research Paper	100 points
Total	700 points

Letter grades will be assigned based on straight percentages of 100 - 90% A range, 89 - 80% B ranges, etc.; however, we reserve the right to use a more lenient scale if needed.

SCALE

100 – 98	A+	89 - 87	B+	79 - 77	C+	69 - 67	D+
97 - 94	A	86 - 83	B	76 - 73	C	66 - 63	D
93 – 90	A-	82 - 80	B-	72 - 70	C-	62 - 60	D-
59 - Below	F						

Lectures

1. Integrated Pest Management: Introduction
2. Sampling and Economics
3. Prevention
4. Chemical Control
5. Biological Control
6. Cultural Control
7. Mechanical, Physical and HPR
8. Degree Days
9. Corn seed and seedling insects
10. Corn leaf feeding insects
11. Corn sap feeding insects
12. Corn stalk boring insects
13. Corn root feeding insects
14. Corn root feeding insects
15. Corn ear feeding insects
16. Soybean seed and seedling insects
17. Soybean sap feeding insects
18. Soybean leaf feeding insects
19. Soybean leaf feeding insects
20. Soybean stem boring insects
21. Soybean pod feeding insects
22. Alfalfa sap feeding insects
23. Alfalfa sap feeding insects
24. Alfalfa root feeding insects
25. Alfalfa leaf feeding insects
26. Alfalfa leaf feeding insects
27. Sorghum seed and seedling pests
28. Sorghum sap feeding insects
29. Sorghum leaf feeding pests
30. Sorghum stalk boring insects
31. Sorghum grain head feeding insects
32. Wheat seed and seedling pests
33. Wheat root feeding pests
34. Wheat sap feeding insects
35. Wheat leaf feeding pests
36. Wheat leaf feeding pests
37. Wheat stem boring insects
38. Wheat head feeding insects