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### **Online Fall Armyworm Trapping Network**

Surprises *can* be a good thing (gifts, parties, etc...), but they're less than desirable when they come at the expense of a crop we're trying to grow. It's why weather networks like the Kansas Mesonet or organizations like the Crop Protection Network have developed tools to help monitor everything from accumulating growing degree days for overwintering pests like alfalfa weevil to maps showing the annual distribution and movement of Southern Rust. It's also a driving force behind the newly established fall armyworm online moth reporting network.

Fall armyworm is a migratory pest that flies in from the south each year. Since they don't follow a calendar, we use pheromone traps to give an idea of when moths arrive. Doing so gives us a 'heads up' it's time to start scouting. As this trapping network has grown, so has the need for a formalized reporting network.

Housed on the *Great Lakes and Maritime Pest Monitoring Network*, this tool allows growers to see trap locations and trapping numbers. It is *not* a substitute for regular scouting – feeding pressure/injury can vary significantly in a short distance – but it *can* provide information to direct scouting efforts. Longer term, it will also help us to gain a better idea of this pest's seasonality and general distribution within the state.

Check out (and bookmark...) the site by visiting our *Tailgate Talks* resource page at <https://www.meadowlark.k-state.edu/tailgate-talks/>. There you'll find a link to the monitoring network which includes step by step instructions on how to use it. Feel free to drop me a line as well if you want help accessing the information.

With any luck, fall armyworm will find somewhere else to hang out this summer and will be a non-issue. I'll regularly share information here as well, but if you want to track their movement across the state, check out the trapping network at the link above.