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Awareness Alert for *Mozena obtusa* Leaf Footed Bug

Recently, various Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service personnel have noted the presence in our region of a leaf footed bug species *Mozena obtusa*. This insect species is described as an occasional pest, and was last found in the area in 2014. Therefore, its impact on crop plants, including cotton, is poorly understood. The objective of this newsletter is to inform producers of this insect and to increase awareness of the situation.

Kerry Siders, the Hockley/Cochran/Lamb Counties Extension IPM agent first brought this to our attention in his July 12 newsletter. A direct link to that newsletter is here:

<https://counties.agrilife.org/hockley/files/2022/07/July122022-1.pdf>

Siders, and other Extension IPM agents have noted this insect's presence in their counties. The July 14 podcast where this is discussed can be heard here:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-766365640-259391064/high-plains-71322>

Dr. Suhas Vyavhare, Extension Entomologist at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center at Lubbock, initiated a control trial for *Mozena obtusa* in a cotton field on July 12th. This trial included multiple insecticide products which are being screened for control efficacy. When his results are available, they will be published here:

<https://focusonagriculture.blogspot.com/>

Kay Ledbetter, Extension Communications Specialist at the Texas A&M Research and Extension Center at Amarillo published an article on the AgriLife Today website which covers concerns and current state of knowledge. It can be found here:

<https://agrilifetoday.tamu.edu/2022/07/14/insurgence-of-mozena-bug-concerns-crop-producers-homeowners-alike/>

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***Mozena obtusa* Photographs**

The following photographs of this insect were compiled from various sources.



***Mozena obtusa* nymph
(immature)**



***Mozena obtusa* adult**

Source: <https://counties.agrilife.org/hockley/files/2022/07/July122022-1.pdf>



Photo of nymph (left) and adult (right) *Mozena* bugs on cotton leaf by Dr. Suhas Vyavhare, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service

Accessed here: <https://agrilifetoday.tamu.edu/2022/07/14/insurgence-of-mozena-bug-concerns-crop-producers-homeowners-alike/>



Photo of two *Mozena* nymphs on cotton leaf by Dr. Suhas Vyavhare, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Accessed here: <https://agrilifetoday.tamu.edu/2022/07/14/insurgence-of-mozena-bug-concerns-crop-producers-homeowners-alike/>



Photo of adult *Mozena* bug on cotton leaf by Kerry Siders, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Accessed here: <https://counties.agrilife.org/hockley/files/2022/07/July122022-1.pdf>