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Agricultural Producers Urged to Check Crops for Pests

Recent crop inspections by County Agricultural staff have noted significant numbers of grasshoppers in local crops including peas; and lygus bugs in alfalfa and canola fields.

“The County Agriculture department urges producers to walk their crops and pastures to check for lygus bugs and grasshoppers,” says Sonja Raven, Agricultural Fieldman.

Three of the four grasshopper species that cause damage to crops have been found and sampled in fields across the County. These include Two-stripe, Clearwing and Migratory grasshoppers. Although most grasshoppers are in early stages of development, and their presence is patchy in areas, producers are strongly encouraged to check their fields to determine if control methods are needed.

Crop scouting by County staff has also found lygus bugs in alfalfa and canola fields. Producers should check their crops to determine if there’s a significant population.

To determine whether control measures are needed on your property, please visit <https://www.agric.gov.ab.ca/app21/infopage?cat1=Diseases%2FInsects%2F%20Pests&cat2=Crop%20Insects>.

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