

1539 Economic injury level of *Spodoptera frugiperda* in Brazilian cotton crops

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The economic importance of the corn caterpillar in the cotton crop has grown in the Brazilian Cerrado, where severe attacks can significantly reduce the production. This study had for objective to adjust the economic injury level (EIL) and the economic threshold (ET) of this insect for the cotton crop. The EIL was determined by the formula $EIL=C/VIDK$. The management cost (C) was equal to US\$ 7.50 per acre; the market value (V) ranged from US\$ 0.44 to US\$ 0.74 per pound of cotton plum; the injury per insect (I) was equal to 0.83; the crop response to pest injury (D) ranged from 0.09 to 0.165; the proportionate reduction of the insect population (K) averaged 0.735. Simulation had been effected on the basis of those values. EIL and ET ranges were defined in accordance with ambient, agronomic and marketing variations and were available in the present study.