PEST ALERT

Management and Rotation Guide for **Two-Spot Cotton Leafhopper**

Adult two-spot cotton leafhopper. (Photo by Dr. Alexandria Revynthi, University of Florida)

As of January 2026, the invasive two-spot cotton leafhopper, a.k.a. cotton jassid or *Amrasca biguttula*, has been found in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. Texas Department of Agriculture imposed a quarantine on this pest in 2025. The quarantine applies to all *Hibiscus* species from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina, and those out of currently infested Texas counties, including Cameron, Grimes, Fort Bend and Wharton.

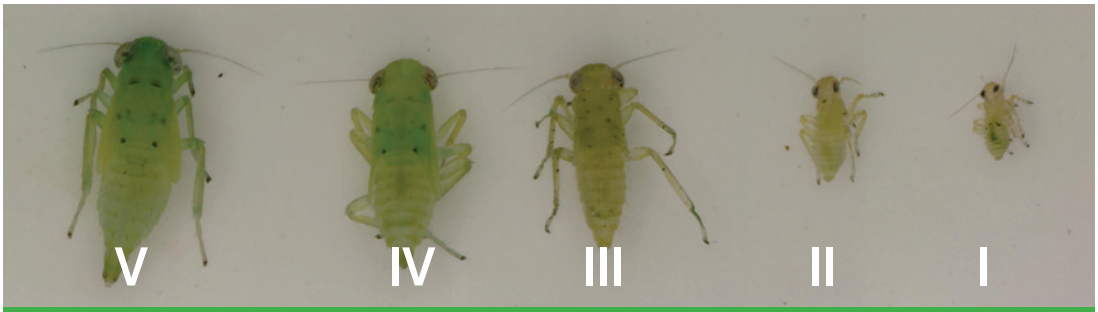
The rotation programs below are developed based on insecticide trial results from research teams led by Dr. Alexandria Revynthi of the University of Florida, Dr. Shimat Joseph of the University of Georgia and Dr. Zee Ahmed of Clemson University.

Rotation Programs for Two-Spot Cotton Leafhopper

	Product 1 (IRAC)	**Product 2** (IRAC)	**Product 3** (IRAC)	**Product 4** (IRAC)	**Product 5** (IRAC)
For quick knockdown followed by residual control:					
Nursery	Hachi-Hachi® SC (21A)	Talus® 70 DF (16)	Altus® (4D)	Talstar® (3A)	Acephate (1B)
Landscape	Hachi-Hachi® SC (21A)	Talus® 70 DF (16)	Altus® (4D)	Talstar® (3A)	Acephate (1B)
For preventive treatment of incoming hibiscus plants or liners:					
Nursery	Talus® 70 DF (16)	Hachi-Hachi® SC (21A)	Altus® (4D)	Acephate (1B)	Talstar® (3A)

Notes

- Each product may be sprayed twice sequentially (if labels allow sequential applications) within a 2- to 4-week period before switching to the next product in the rotation programs.
- Hachi-Hachi SC has been identified as the most effective insecticide in multiple trials, providing direct contact (knockdown) and residual control against adults and nymphs.
- In-coming plants or liners may seem free of adults and nymphs but can harbor eggs, which are deposited in leaf mid-veins. Preventive treatment with a residual product that is effective against eggs and nymphs, such as Talus 70 DF, should be applied to these in-coming materials. After treatment of Talus, preventive treatment may continue using products with residual activity as outlined in the rotation program.



Five nymphal instars (progressing from right to left) of the two-spot cotton leafhopper. (Photo by Dr. Alexandria Revynthi, University of Florida)

"Hopperburn" on *Hibiscus syriacus* caused by two-spot cotton leafhoppers. (Photo by Dr. Shimat Joseph, University of Georgia)