

# LOUISIANA BOLL WEEVIL TALK



MIKE STRAIN DVM, COMMISSIONER

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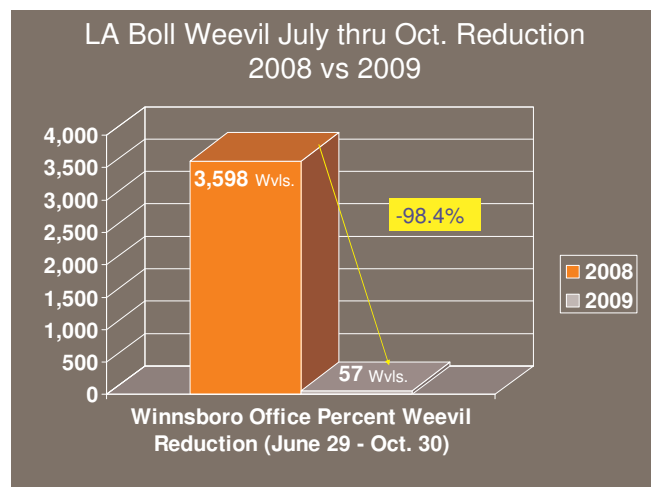
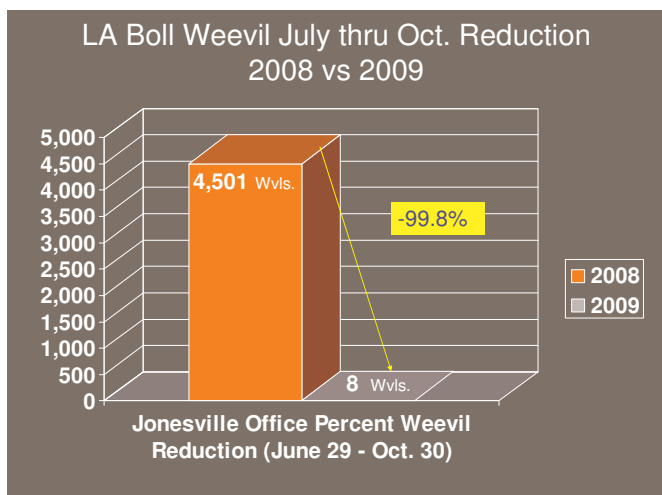
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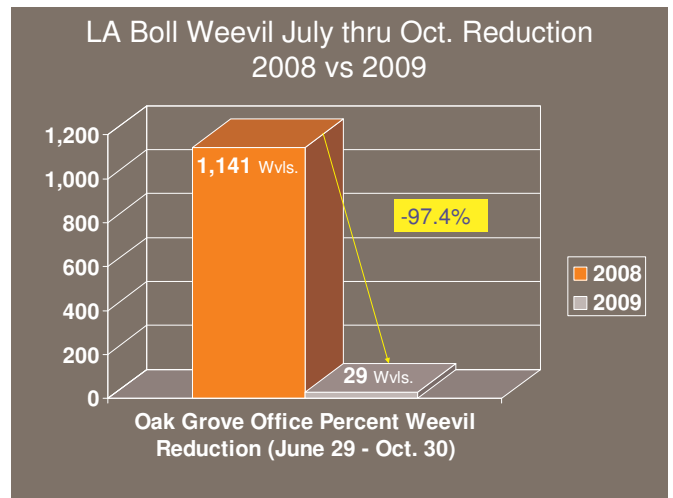
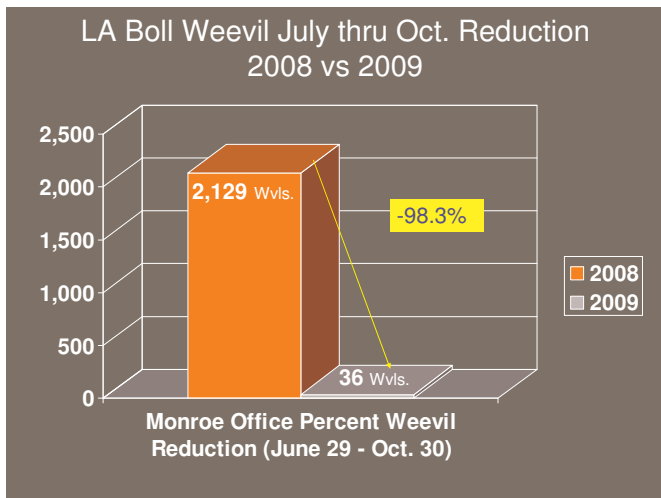
November 29, 2009

## TO: LOUISIANA COTTON PRODUCERS

This has been a very successful year for the Boll Weevil Eradication Program. The Red River Zone has been weevil free for three years and continues to be in post eradication. In the Northeast, our aggressive protocol over the last two years has resulted in a significant weevil reduction this year, with some areas being weevil free throughout the year. The Technical Advisory Committee's guidelines for 2009 called for a 90% weevil reduction, based on fall weevil numbers. We achieved a 99.5% reduction in total weevils caught August through October compared to the same time period last year.

The previous newsletter included weevil totals through June. The following graphs show weevil reduction by work unit, July through October.





Because of changes within the United States Department of Agriculture, Boll Weevil Eradication Program assessments will no longer be collected at the parish Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices. Assessments will continue to be based on certified cotton acres as provided by the FSA offices; however, beginning with the 2010 crop year, producers will be invoiced and payments will be mailed directly to the Louisiana Boll Weevil Eradication Program. More information will be included in upcoming newsletters.

As harvest nears completion, we need to emphasize the importance of timely stalk destruction. Post harvest crop termination is critical. Historically, there is a direct correlation between persistent hot spots and areas where stalk destruction has been delayed or stalks have not been completely destroyed. We appreciate your diligence in destroying stalks immediately after harvest. Remember that Boll Weevil Law and regulations require that cotton stalks be destroyed no later than December 31. We urge you to make every effort to destroy your stalks as soon as possible after harvest. Early stalk destruction has proven to be essential in the success of boll weevil eradication.

**REMINDERS**

- **Destroy stalks as soon as possible after harvest.**
- **Call the Baton Rouge Office if you would like your Boll Weevil News sent by email.**
- **Watch for upcoming information regarding payment of assessments.**

We appreciate your continued support of the Boll Weevil Eradication Program as we work toward our goal of complete eradication for Louisiana.

Marc Bordelon, Director  
Boll Weevil Eradication Program

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