

dieldrin, and some others are not given. These chemicals are produced by single manufacturers who do not release production, capacity, and sales information. Furthermore, USDA's statistics cover only the past four years. A hopeful sign pointing to improvement in this situation is that Dr. Shepard reports the industry as becoming more and more cooperative in furnishing data on operations.

How much total sales and profits were down is difficult to estimate (see chart). Most producers of basic toxicants also produce other chemical materials and seldom give breakdowns of total sales in their annual reports in such a way as to indicate the dollar volume of agricultural chemical sales, although most of them have stated in letters to stockholders that business was poor in the ag chemicals field last year.

infestation for the state was about 5000 weevils per acre. The situation this year will depend upon the effects of the winter weather on the larvae and the weather in the early part of the cotton growing season.

Infestations in Tennessee are expected to be lower than in the previous two years. South Carolina also reports a low level of boll weevil infestation.

Pink Bollworm

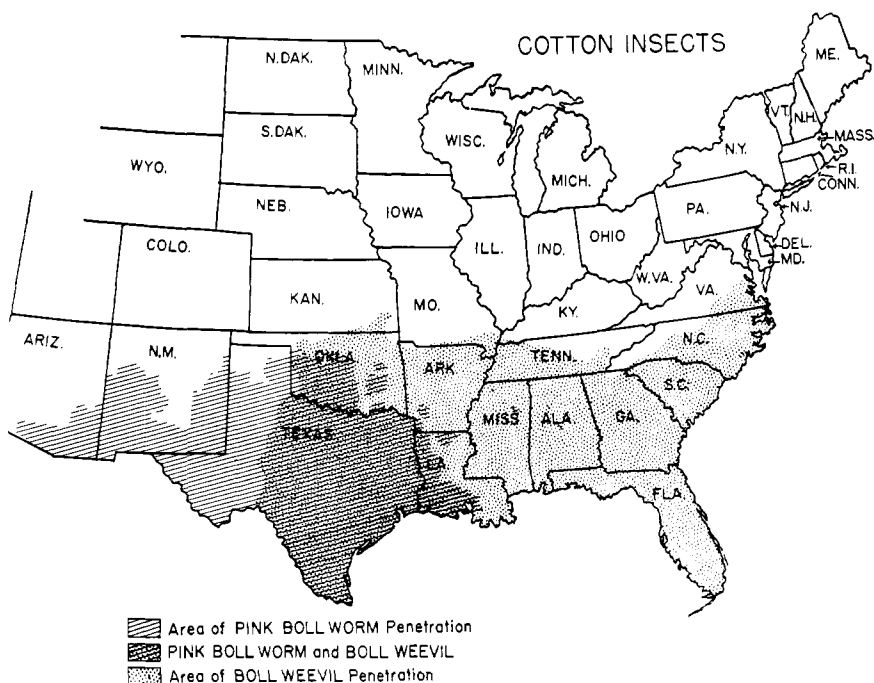
The pink bollworm infestation in southern Texas will probably be down again this year. Inspection of surface debris and bolls in the fields at the beginning of the year indicated a lighter infestation than the previous two or three years. In the north and central regions of Texas the frosts of January may have appreciably reduced the numbers of bollworms overwintering. The USDA does not have its survey completed but it seems possible that the pink bollworm will be down for the first part of the growing season.

Corn Borer

The European corn borer is now present as a crop menace in most of the northeastern quarter of the country. Last year 11 states reported new infestations in 55 counties which had previously been free of the corn borer. The most heavily infested areas are the junction of eastern South Dakota, northeastern Nebraska, and northwestern Iowa and a band across the state of Illinois.

Army Worm

Army worm outbreaks are almost completely dependent upon weather



Source: USDA

Cotton Insects, Grasshoppers, Corn Borer, And Army Worm Still Major Threats

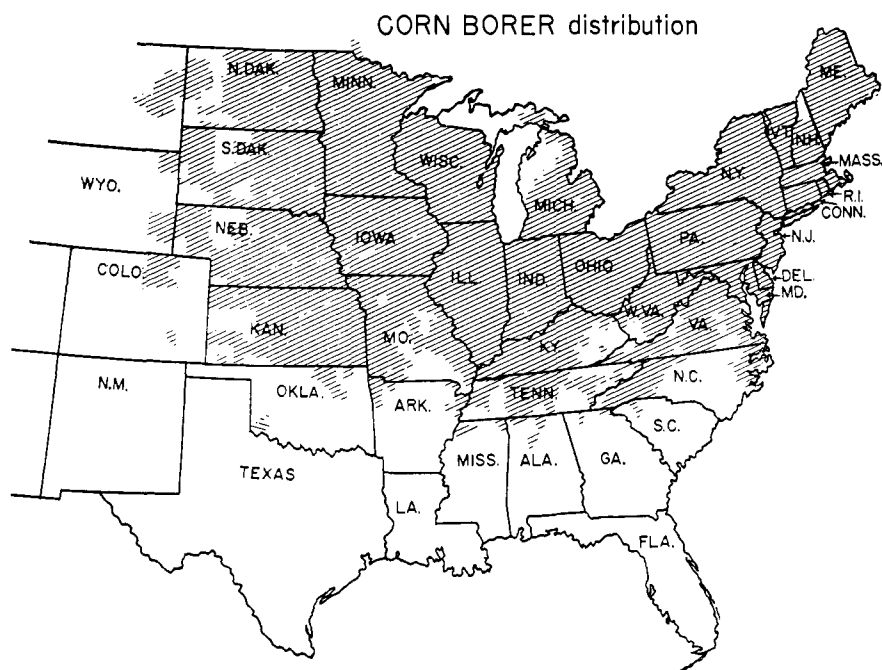
Generally it is still too early in the year to predict accurately the pests which will emerge as major problems this year. The weather in the various regions is perhaps the predominant factor in any insect outbreak. However, it is possible to estimate what might be major threats.

The cooperative insect report, issued by the insect plant pest control branch of the Agricultural Research Service, is a weekly survey of insect infestations by geographical regions of the U.S. This survey is the one centrally coordinated source on insect infestations for the U. S.

Cotton Insects

The boll weevil is still unchallenged as the principal insect enemy of the cotton crop. Better moisture conditions in the cotton region could be an indication that there will be a resurgence of the boll weevil.

For Georgia, hibernation counts made last fall indicated that the level of infestation was about 40% higher than the previous year. The general level of



Source: USDA

