

Issues In Agriculture

The Newsletter About Integrated Pest Management for the El Paso Valley

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Sarah McKenzie Downing
EA- IPM
SMDowning@ag.tamu.edu



1030 North Zaragosa Suite A★El Paso, Texas 79907★Phone: (915) 859-7725★ Fax: (915) 860-0331

Announcements

- Pecan Insect Workshop- May 15, 2003
As mentioned before the Annual Pecan Insect Workshop will be held on Wednesday, May 15 at the Davis Lee Holdman (Cook) Farm just east of Fabens. The following agenda will be followed:
 - 8:00 - 8:30** - Registration and Welcome
 - 8:30 - 9:15** - Mario Savaadra- Texas Department of Agriculture
Laws and Regulations
 - 9:15 - 10:00** - Bill Ree- Texas Cooperative Extension
Pecan Nut Casebearer and Insecticide Treatment Considerations
 - 10:00 - 10:30** - Mark Muegge- Texas Cooperative Extension
Controlling Aphids in Pecan Orchards- New Insecticide Considerations
 - 10:30** - Wrap Up and Questions

Pecan Nut Casebearer Update

We have had spotty catches in our casebearer traps. There are ten traps placed throughout the valley (from Clint east to Tornillo) and the first moth I caught was on Tuesday, April 29, on Middle Island Road east of Fabens. That was the only moth I have caught to date in that trap. Furthermore, there is only one trap (near Clint) in which I have had steady moth captures. Because of the spotty captures, I think that this next week we will catch a greater number of moths, so that a definite peak can be determined. I will begin scouting for eggs at the end of next week and I definitely expect to see eggs by the first of the following week.

Just as a reminder pheromone baited traps are used to determine when to begin scouting for first generation casebearer eggs. You should begin scouting for casebearer eggs about ten days after the first capture of the male moth in the pheromone trap. Remember, the first male moths are usually caught about two weeks before the optimum treatment time. The peak for the number of male moths captured in the traps usually occurs about one week prior to the optimum treatment date for casebearer larvae.

Cotton:

Most fields in the Lower Valley have been planted, while they are still planting some in the Upper Valley and in New Mexico. We have two true leaf cotton out there and everything is looking pretty good. This time of year it is always good to send out information regarding plant growth and degree days. I hope the following information will help in estimating plant growth and development and tie into our degree day reporting. This information was found in the publication "Managing Cotton Insects in the High Plains, Rolling Plains and Trans Pecos Areas of Texas - 2003". If you would like a copy of this extension publication please contact our office and we will be happy to mail you a copy.

Growth Interval	Calendar Days		Accumulated heat units
	Mean	Range	
Planting to:			
Stand establishment	7	5 -13	78
First true leaf	16	11 - 25	
Squaring	36	29 - 41	526
1/3 grown square	44	36 - 49	
First bloom	61	45 - 81	1064
Peak bloom	79	59 - 102	
First open boll	96	88 - 106	1641
95% mature bolls	146	129 - 163	2271
Boll development:			
Fiber length established:	First 18-45 days		
Fiber micronaire and strength determined:	Next 20-60 days		

Degree Day and Weather Information:

COTTON - As of April 30, 2003

	2003	2002	2001
January 1 (PBW)	329.5	520.5	399
April 15 (Cotton)	82	149.5	100.5

PECANS - As of April 30, 2003

	2003	2002	2001
January 1	1894	1960	1887
March 20 (PNC)	1057.5	1270.5	1132.5

Rain/Moisture Received as of April 30, 2003: 1.77 inches

Reported by Rio Bravo Farms in Tornillo, Texas

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