

Blacklands IPM Newsletter

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GENERAL SITUATION

The area continued to receive some scattered showers over the past week. However, dryer conditions have been more prevalent. Silage harvest is winding down. Corn is drying down quickly. Most grain sorghum fields have gone to seed. There will probably be some grain sorghum harvested in the next week to 10 days.

Cotton continues to grow off rapidly. The drier conditions have helped the older cotton set bolls. The younger cotton is squaring and close to first bloom. Cotton bollworm is the insect of most concern. Most fields of non-Bt will be sprayed for this pest along with a significant amount of BollGard 1. Bollworm larvae in non-Bt cotton will range from 4-30 percent. Bollworm larvae in BollGard 1 cotton will range from 2-20 percent - 4 to 16% is not uncommon. Bollworms are of no concern in BollGard II cotton - numbers are very low to non-existent.

GRAIN SORGHUM

Sorghum midge are in high numbers in most area fields that are still in the yellow bloom stage. A high percentage of the milo is past midge problems with the possible exception of wet areas where the milo has been delayed.

Stink bugs numbers in most area fields are below threshold levels. This is due to some fields being treated and other fields having lower numbers. Stink bugs are only a problem when seed is in the milk stage. The economic threshold is an average 1 per head in the milk stage.

Sorghum headworm numbers will range from 0-2 per head. There has been some fields treated for this pest. Most fields are well below economic thresholds for headworms. The economic threshold is an average of 1.5 per head.

COTTON

Cotton aphids range from non-existent to light. Cotton aphids are pretty much holding their own or decreasing in numbers. Spraying a pyrethroid insecticide may cause additional aphid problems.

Spider mites are being seen in a number of area fields in light numbers. This is a pest that has increased over the past week.

Boll weevil punctured squares are 0-1%.

Bollworm egg counts range from 2-30 per 100 plants. Most fields will range from 4-10 per 100 plants. Peak bollworm egglay occurred on July 9. See General Situation for more details.

Bollworm/budworm trap counts indicate a much high percentage of bollworm moths than budworm moths in the Chatt area.

Producer/Area	BOLLWORM		BUDWORM	
	7/18	7/11	7/18	7/11
Kenneth Machac: Bynum/Malone	0	2	0	0
Ronnie Gerik: Aquilla	0	0	0	0
John Daniel Kaska Chatt	98	187	0	0

(Number of moths per trap)

* Bollworm and budworm moth trap counts are not indicative of the number of moths out in the field. The trap counts are used as a monitoring tool to determine the percent bollworm and percent budworm in the area.

Beet armyworm trap counts at zero. Beet armyworm larvae are not being seen in the field.

BEE T ARMYWORM TRAP COUNT

	2007	2006
7/18	0	1
7/11	0	1
7/4	0	1
6/27	0	1
6/20	0	3

(The average of two trap locations in Chatt)