

Marty Jungman, EA-IPM  
P.O. Box 318  
Hillsboro TX 76645  
m-jungman@tamu.edu  
254/582-3551

# Blacklands IPM Newsletter

VOLUME XV, NO. I

NEWSLETTER DATE: MAY 20, 2010

## General Situation

Scattered showers over the past week have resulted in rainfall totals ranging from 1/2 inch to over 2 inches. The majority of the area has received around an inch of rain. Corn continues to progress well. Corn will range from V5 to V10 and there are some fields that will begin to tassel within a week. Grain sorghum will range from 4-18 inches tall. Some grain sorghum fields are very uniform in growth while others are not. In general, grain sorghum has progressed well over the past couple of weeks.

Wheat harvest will begin next week. Yield potential has increased with the drier soil conditions over the past 45 days.

Cotton growth stage will range from cotyledon to pinhead square. The majority of the cotton will range from 4-6 true leaves. Cotton has progressed well over the past week. A number of cotton fields were slow to grow-off due to wind, blowing dirt, hail, cold nights, etc.

## Grain Sorghum

Greenbugs numbers will range from non-existent to light.

Yellow sugarcane aphids are being seen in a few area locations in very light numbers. This may be an insect to watch as the season progresses.

## Cotton

Thrips are a concern in the later planted cotton. Most of the earlier planted cotton has been treated one time with a foliar insecticide and is growing away from thrips. Thrips numbers, in general, range from light to moderate. We are starting to see an increase in numbers as thrips move out of pastures and wheat drying down.

Cotton aphids will range from light to moderate. Most area fields are light.

Cotton fleahoppers will range from 0-8 per 100 terminals. Fleahopper numbers have increased slightly over the past few days but are still at low levels. Most of the fleahoppers we are seeing are adults. Fleahoppers are a problem during the first three weeks of squaring. I would expect fleahopper numbers to be on the increase going into next week. The economic threshold level is 15-25 fleahoppers per 100 terminals. With relatively dry weather conditions and cotton progressing well, I expect we can handle economic threshold levels at 15% without treatment.

*“Adult fleahoppers are about 1/8 inch long and pale green. Nymphs resemble adults but lack wings and are light green. They move very rapidly when disturbed. Adults move into cotton from weed hosts when cotton begins to square. Both adults and*

*nymphs suck sap from the tender portion of the plant, including small squares. Pinhead size and smaller squares are susceptible to damage.”*

Bidrin 8 is labeled for one early-season application up to first bloom. It can be used at a rate up to .2 lb active ingredients or 3.2 oz per acre. From first bloom until 30 days before harvest, no more than 16 fluid ounces per acre of Bidrin 8 can be applied during this growth period. See the new label for more details.

### **Boll Weevil Eradication**

*Cotton fields that are up to a stand and do not have boll weevil traps set out should contact NBBWEF at 903/641-0020.*

*Producers with cotton fields with downed boll weevil traps due to weather conditions or other reasons should contact NBBWEF.*

It is critical for the continued success of boll weevil eradication that all fields are trapped and monitored for boll weevils.