

Crop IPM Profile

A NEWSLETTER FOR NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS GROWERS

Information can be accessed from the following web sites:

Department of Entomology: <http://entowww.tamu.edu>

Texas Pest Management Association: www.texag.net

Ellis County Web Site: <http://ellis-tx.tamu.edu>

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GENERAL SITUATION

Another week of hot and dry weather dominated the North Central Texas area this past week. But this is July! A few localized thunderstorms produced up to two inches of rain for a few fortunate folks near Palmer, Texas. Much of the early April planted cotton is at 3 to 4 nodes above white flower and a few fields are nearing "cutout".

Cotton Insects

Aphids

Aphid numbers remain light in most fields and should provide beneficial insects with a readily available food source. Aphids should be watched closely.

Spider Mites

Spider mites continue to be the most prevalent secondary pest in

cotton. Scattered outbreaks are becoming more widely observed in some fields. It is important that mite outbreaks be treated early before they become widespread. Some miticides include; Oberon 2 SC @ 6 ozs. /acre, Zephyr 0.15 EC @ 4 ozs./acre, Comite @ 1 pt. /acre and Comite II @ 1 1/4 pt. /acre. Adherence to labeled spray volume recommendations will enhance control. The minimum recommended total spray volume for Oberon 2 SC is 10 gal. of water per acre, Zephyr 0.15 EC is 5 gal. of water per acre and Comite is 15 to 20 gal. of water per acre.

Boll Weevil

Punctured square numbers remain light in fields across the area. Punctured squares and bolls have ranged from 0 to 2 per 100 fruiting forms examined in fields that I have

inspected this past week. Weevil numbers are down! Needless to say, the Boll Weevil Eradication Program has made major strides during this first full year of its implementation. **Producers having any questions regarding Boll Weevil Eradication should contact your Field Unit Supervisor or Mr. Johnny Aten, NTBBWEZ manager at 903-229-1370**

Bollworm

Higher bollworm activity may be observed from July 15 through July 18, according to the Moon Phase Forecast. **Remember this is merely a prediction.** Late planted cotton or fields in areas which received two plus inches of rain about a week ago are likely to be lush and more attractive to bollworm/tobacco budworm. More mature fields nearing cutout, which has that tough leathery and wilted appearance should be less attractive to bollworm/tobacco budworm. Fields should be scouted closely. Inspections should include whole plant samples. Treatment for bollworms may be justified when 8 to 12 or more small larvae are present per 100 plant terminals and

5 to 15 percent of the squares or bolls are worm damaged. Some insecticides include; Baythroid 2E @ 1 gal./50 acres, Karate 1 EC @ 1 gal/33 acres, Karate 2.08 CS @ 1 gal/62 acres, Asana XL @ 1 gal/18 acres, Mustang Max 0.8 E @ 1 gal/40 acres. Prolex 1.25 E @ 70 acres, Intrepid 2 F @ 1 gal/8 acres, Steward 1.25 SC @ 1 gal/14 acres, or Tracer 4 SC @ 2.14 ozs./acre. Bollgard, Bollgard II and Widestrike cottons are holding up well.

Beet Armyworm

The numbers of beet armyworm hits (egg masses and larvae) have increased in some fields over the past week. Highest number of larvae and plant injury has been observed in several refuge fields which were drought stressed and infested with Pigweed. Different sizes (ages) of larvae were present and feeding was primarily to leaves, squares and small bolls in the top half of plants. Producers should inspect fields closely for beet armyworm and plant injury. **BollGard II and Widestrike cottons are effective on beet armyworm.**

