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Pest 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>

Navarro County Web Site: <http://navarro-tx.tamu.edu>

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GENERAL SITUATION

Thunderstorms fell over north central Texas during the past week, with measurable precipitation ranging from 1.0 to 2.0 inches. These rains were most timely and should greatly enhance crop growth.

Corn and sorghum have made excellent progress during the past week. Much of the corn is in V7 - V8 growth stage (7 to 8 leaves). Sorghum ranges from V5 to V7 growth stages. Cotton growth ranges from fields which are just emerging to a stand to those in the 2nd true leaf stage. Wheat is rapidly maturing throughout north central Texas.

Wheat Insects

Armyworm numbers ranging from 1 to 4 per square foot and foliar feeding was observed in some area wheat fields this

past week. Higher numbers may be found in areas of fields more heavily shaded by thicker plant stands and higher tiller density. Generally, armyworms will average about 2 larvae per square foot. This is well below the economic threshold of 4 or more larvae (1 inch or larger) per square foot.

Cotton Insects

The seed treatments; Cruiser, Gaucho Grande and heavy rate of Orthene (12 Ozs. /cwt.) have performed well. Light numbers of cotton aphid have been observed in many fields. In a few fields aphids have caused slight leaf deformity, this is expected, since insects must feed to take up toxin expressed by seed treatments.

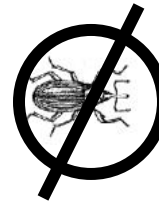
Light numbers of thrips and slight terminal leaf curling have been observed in some fields this past week.

Residual protection from the above mentioned seed treatments should last for about 3 to 4 weeks after planting. Cruiser and Gaucho Grande have the potential to provide somewhat longer protection against early season insects. Producers are encouraged to inspect older cotton carefully for thrips, aphids and associated plant injury. Movement of thrips into cotton from nearby wheat is likely as the wheat crop dries down. Some suggested insecticides for thrips are; Orthene 90S @ 1.5 to 3 ozs./acre, Address 75S @ 2 to 4 ozs./acre, Address 90S @ 1.67 to 3.2 ozs./acre, Bidrin 8E @ 1 gal./50 to 60 acres, dimethoate 4E @ 1 gal./32 to 64 acres, dimethoate 5E @ 1 gal./40 to 80 acres.

Any cotton field without pheromone traps should be reported to the Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation. It is imperative that no fields be missed.

Producers having any questions regarding Boll Weevil Eradication should contact your Field Unit Supervisor or Mr. Johnny Aten, NTBBWEZ manager at 903-229-1370.

Communication is important!!



Overwintering Boll Weevil Pheromone Trap Catches



The North Texas Blacklands Boll Weevil Eradication Zone (NTBBWEZ) reported 10 overwintering boll weevils caught from 1,392 traps during the past week. A trap index for boll weevils caught to date in 2007 compared to the same time in 2006 is listed in the following table.

Date	2007	2006
4/18	0	0
4/23	0.0071	0.1691

The trap indexes for beet armyworm as reported by the NTBBWEZ to date are;

Date	2007	2006
4/16	5	9
4/23	2.9	19

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