

UPPER COAST CROP IMPROVEMENT NEWSLETTER

Matagorda

Wharton

Jackson

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VOL. 10 No. 3

<http://entowww.tamu.edu>

June 2, 2006

IN THIS ISSUE

- TPMA Website
- Upper Coast IPM Program Sponsors
- Cotton Insect Situation
- Monthly Rainfall
- Texas Precision AG Expo

TPMA Website

The Upper Coast Crop Improvement newsletter and other Extension IPM Program newsletters from across the state can be viewed at the Texas Pest Management Association website at www.tpma.org.

Upper Coast IPM Program Sponsors

Moses Gin	Vanderbilt Gin
Danevang Coop	Farmers Coop of El Campo
Farmers Gin of Palacios	

Cotton Insect Situation

During the past week (5/29-6/2), growth stages of cotton in Jackson, Matagorda, and Wharton counties ranged from first - square through the second week of bloom.

Aphid numbers were extremely low throughout the week.

Fleahopper numbers in **pre-blooming** cotton averaged 5.7% across all fields. Individual field numbers ranged from 1 to 15% per 100 plant terminals. Once cotton fields reach first bloom, the fleahopper becomes beneficial by feeding on bollworm eggs.

Bollworm egg and larvae counts ranged from 0 to 4% and 0 to 4%, respectively.

Insect pests that were found in very low numbers and in low number of fields as well included creontiades and southern green stink bug.

Beneficial insects found in fields included lady beetles, minute pirate bugs, damsel bugs, lacewings, big eyed bugs, fire ants, syrphid flies, and fire ants. Other beneficial arthropods found included spiders.

Monthly Rainfall

Listed below is a comparison of the 2006 and 2005 total rainfall accumulated for the first five months of the year. This information can be obtained at the Texas A&M crop weather program website (<http://cwp.tamu.edu>).

Table 1. Monthly rainfall amounts, Rancho Grande Farms, located in Wharton County near Crescent.

Month	2006	2005
January	1.12	1.68
February	.86	4.37
March	2.60	3.99
April	1.85	1.26
May	4.49	4.37
Total	10.92	15.42

Texas Precision AG EXPO

On Wednesday, June 7, the Texas Plant Protection Association is sponsoring the Texas Precision AG EXPO at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Corpus Christi. The program will begin at 8:30 am.

This event will provide the opportunity to see precision ag equipment in the field and to visit with experts as well as leading farmers using precision ag. Information and field demonstrations will be provided pertaining to guidance systems, utilizing yield mapping data, maximizing soil

variables, variable rate technology, and putting all the information together to increase profits.

Information about registration is available online at <http://tppa.tamu.edu>.