



“Rio Blanco” Integrated Pest Management Update

Vital Crop Production Information for **Crosby** and **Floyd** Counties

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☛ Most irrigated Program cotton is at or near cut out (3 to 7 NAWF) with dryland past that point (0 to 1 NAWF). Proper maturation will now depend upon weather events in the next four weeks. The rain event of last weekend has helped to ensure adequate moisture levels, but some may need to be watered at least one more time to prevent stress, depending largely on planting date and the lush nature of individual fields.

☛ Heat unit accumulations (HU) as of **August 23, 2007**, and previous year's (comparison time frame) were:

5 yr Avg. Jan. 1	Jan 1 ' 07 to Date	5 yr Avg. 1-May	May 1' 07 to Date
2081	1690	1938	1643

To arrive at a figure which suits your specific planting date regarding HU accumulation, utilize the following link; http://deltaandpine.com/tools_WTX_weather.asp, which is provided by DeltaPine Seed.

☛ Cotton aphid colonies have remained on the flower petals of new blooms with a few in terminals. Fields that have not been sprayed for bollworms have maintained enough beneficial arthropods to maintain aphids at a manageable level. The fungus organism which appeared two weeks ago has not been of help lately as it seems to occur primarily on leaf tissue that is covered with honeydew (personal observation). It would seem that aphid colonies are declining, but close monitoring will need to be maintained for additional re-infestations. **Brant Baugh**, Lubbock County IPM Agent, has seen a resurgence of aphids in some of his fields, and **Dr. David Kerns**, Area Cotton Entomologist, warns of a possible re-infestations occurring area-wide, depending largely on weather.

☛ Beneficial arthropod populations continue

to decline. The pest food source is not sufficient in area cotton to keep them engaged, it would seem.

☛ Scattered IPM Program fields throughout the area are maintaining 1,000 to 3,000 worms/acre this week, consisting of varying ages, primarily in white blooms and bloom tags of secondary fruiting forms. Very little significant damage has been noted with these infestations, as most fruit affected has less than a 50% chance of becoming a “harvestable” boll, given long term weather parameter data. To date, only 6% of Program cotton has had to be treated for worms affecting first position fruit, with numbers at or well above threshold levels. A general bollworm egg-lay has not been observed - just the continual nickel and dime effect.

☛ **Meetings of Interest:** (Repeat)

- Precision Ag Expo; September 6, 2007 - Ollie Liner Center, Plainview.

- The 55th Annual Chemicals Conference, organized by West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute, will take place Wednesday September 12, 2007.

The conference will take place at the Reese Technology Conference Center located at 9801 Reese Boulevard North (West 4th Street) Lubbock, Texas. A conference agenda and registration form can be downloaded from <http://www.plainscotton.org/wtaci07program.pdf> in PDF format. Unfortunately, registration is not available on-line at this time. You will need to print, complete and mail in the registration form along with your check payable to "WTACI".

Registration is \$70.00 if pre-registration is post marked by September 1.

After September 1, and Day-Of-Conference registration is \$90.00

The conference has been approved for 8 TDA CEUs, 8 CCA CEUs, and CEUs for New

Mexico and Oklahoma are pending approval. A map to the Reese Technology Conference Center can be found online at:

<http://reasetechnologycenter.com/rtc/content/view/21/49/>

☛ The Crosby County Crop Tour is scheduled for September 21, 2007. Meeting details have changed since last week, due to scheduling conflicts, but finalized details will be reported next week.

☛ **West Nile Virus Update:**

As of August 22, 2007,

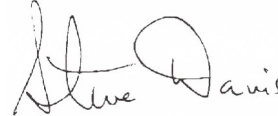
“We will be reporting three additional cases of West Nile illness today. Two cases of WNND from El Paso and one WN fever case from Ector county. Ages of the cases range from 30 to 60; two were female, one was male; onset dates ranged from July 24 through Aug 8. So far this year there have not been any deaths associated with West Nile virus.

This brings the total number of WNND cases reported to 11 and the WN fever cases to 5.

Our totals are running well behind 2006. On this date in 2006 we had reported 72 cases of WNND with 9 fatalities, and 11 cases of WN fever. On this date in 2005 we had reported 13 cases of WNND.”

James L. Alexander, DVM, MPVM, DACVPM,
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