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# PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

News about Integrated Pest Management for producers in Dawson and Lynn Counties

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## CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS

With the temperatures reaching the mid-90's over the past week to 10 days, cotton has really progressed. All program fields have now reached the blooming stage with a few fields approaching the point of physiological cutout. Cutout is the last effective flowering date for blooms to develop into bolls with adequate size and fiber properties. Physiological cutout occurs when there are less than 5 nodes-above-white-flower (NAWF). Based on historical weather data, August 12 is the calendar date in which cotton for our area reaches seasonal cutout; this does not mean that cotton shuts down and quits producing lint, it does tell us that the probability of developing blooms into fully mature bolls is decreasing.

It takes about 800 heat units (HU) for a flower to become a mature boll. With an average of 22 HU per day, high of 94 and low of 70, it will take 36+ days for a bloom to be a mature boll. To figure the number of heat units for a day follow these steps:

- 1) add the high and low temperatures for the day . . . . .  $94 + 70 = 164$
- 2) divide by two to get the average . . . . .  $164 \div 2 = 82$
- 3) subtract 60 from your average daily temperature, this is the number of heat units for that day. . . . .  $82 - 60 = 22$

Now you can do the figuring on how long it will take to accumulate 800 HU as temperatures moderate through the fall.

## INSECT SITUATION

### Aphids

Aphids have and are crashing. There are many factors that contributed to the crash; increase in temperatures, overcrowding, beneficial numbers finally catching up and chemical applications. Typically there are always a few aphids still around in the fields following a crash, so we still need to stay aware of their numbers and activity. Now crashes brought about by chemical applications we do not expect to see any aphids left behind especially when the application was excellent.

As stated in the last newsletter: In fields with heavy aphid activity, scouting for worms becomes more difficult due to the stickiness and the relatively close size of aphids and worm eggs.

**Keep in mind that the use of synthetic pyrethroid insecticides targeting other pests may increase cotton aphid numbers.**

### Bollworms

Bollworms continue to be very quiet across our area. We did find a few worms across the area but nothing to be excited about at this time. Also, we kicked up a few moths this week when walking across the fields. Next week, after this tropical depression works its way across our area, we really need to be on our toes when monitoring for bollworms. We seem to always have a increase in worm activity following these systems coming up from the coast as they herd the moths north.

This week, we found a total of seven worms which came from five of our fields with two fields having two worms apiece. All the activity has been south and west of Lamesa. When calculated to worms per acre those five fields had a range of 442 to 1,269 worms per acre.

I did detect some damage to the small squares in the terminal of some plants but could not find a worm anywhere on the plant. This indicates one of two things, 1) these worms are not able to survive due to technology and/or the environment or 2) my eyes are not what they once were and I am missing them - I hope it's number one and not number two.

When scouting for bollworms, make sure you are scouting plants at random throughout the entire field. Do not just look in one area and assume that the entire field is in the same condition.

Our typical threshold is about 5,000 treatable worms (less than 1/2 inch) per acre and going up to a threshold between 8,000 to 10,000 treatable worms per acre depending on the field and the experience of the individual doing the scouting. I will get more into worm scouting and decision making next time.

Suggested Insecticides for control of aphids in cotton

Insecticide	Rate per acre
Intruder® 70WP	0.6-1.1 oz
Lorsban® 4E	8-32 oz
Bidrin® 8E	4-8 oz
Bidrin® 8E + Ovasyn® 1.5E	4-8 oz + 0.67-1.33 pt
Bidrin® 8E + Curacron® 8E	4-8 oz + 2-4 oz
Provado® 1.6F	3.75 oz
Trimax® 4F	1.5 oz
Lannate® 2.4 LV	12 oz
Parathion 8E	4-6 oz
Curacron® 8E	8 oz
Centric® 40 WG	2 oz

Suggested Insecticides for control of bollworms in cotton

Insecticide	Rate per acre
Capture® 2 E *	2.6 - 6.4 oz
Baythroid ® 2 E *	1.6 - 2.6 oz
Leverage ® 2.7 SE *	3.75 oz
Karate ® 2.08 CS *	1.6 - 2.56 oz
Ammo ® 2.5 E *	2 - 5 oz
Decis ® 1.5 E *	1.62 - 2.56 oz
Asana XL ® 0.66 E *	5.8 - 9.6 oz
Proaxis ® 0.5 E	3.20 - 5.12 oz
Prolex ® 1.25 E	1.28 - 2.05 oz
Steward ® 1.25 SC	9.2 - 11.3 oz
Lannate ® 2.4 LV	1.5 pts
Methyl Parathion (4E)	2.5 - 4 pts
Curacron ® 8 E	8 - 16 oz
Tracer ® 4 SC	2.14 - 2.9 oz
Larvin® 3.2 F	1.5 - 2.25 pts
Mustang ® 1.5 E	2.82 - 3.83 oz
Mustang ® Max 0.8 E	2.64 - 3.6 oz

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