

PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

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

CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS

This week we started seeing cracked/open bolls in program fields. All fields in the scouting program have now reached physiological cutout; the first was the Ag-CARES Farm on August 13 and the last reached on September 8. The overall average percent boll set, at the time of physiological cutout, was 79.7% with a high of 93% and a low of 63%; irrigated fields averaged 81.6% (65% - 93%) and the dryland fields averaged 77.9% (63% - 87%). Overall there is an average of six (6) bolls per plant.

What does all that information tell us - on average we have a pretty good crop out there regardless if it irrigated or dryland. Now, we just need some help from the weather to finish it out and get it in a module. September, being cool, wet and cloudy, is not yet cooperating with what we need to finish this crop at its full potential.

Heat unit accumulation for the past week:

Week	Total for Week	Dailey Average
September 6 - 12	106	15

SCOUTING PROGRAM

This current week is the last week our scouting program will be conducting a "full" weekly scouting program. Several fields are being dropped from the weekly rounds and others will be dropped as the weeks pass. The criteria used for dropping fields is based on insect activity, stage of the crop and heat unit accumulation past cutout. However, should a problem develop in a dropped field call and I will come out and examine the problem. Thank You to ALL the participating gins and Lamesa Cotton Growers for making this program more readily available.

NEWSLETTER

This will be the last of the weekly newsletters. However, if there is a problem that arises, I will publish another newsletter to provide information to help in the management decisions in addressing the problem.

INSECT SITUATION

Aphids

Now that we have open cotton, "sticky cotton" becomes a concern that is moved to the "front burner." With open bolls, the aphid threshold drops for the purpose of managing against sticky cotton. The threshold that has been suggested is 10 - 15 aphids per 5th node leaf, starting at the top of the plant.

With areas receiving over three inches of rain this past week, re-growth at the top of the plant becomes a concern. This re-growth will not produce any lint which reaches the basket, but does provide late season aphids a fresh food source. In addition, this re-growth redirects resources away from boll fill.

Watch for any late season aphids and manage accordingly.

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

Bollworms

Bollworms activity remains very light.

Saltmarsh Caterpillars (woolly worms)

We are seeing saltmarsh caterpillars in several fields feeding on leaves. Their feeding is not aggressive at all. They are not very hard to find; they are sitting on the leaves in the upper portion of the plants. They can be a problem in the spring on young emerging but are not considered a problem in the fall on older developed cotton. I have not observed any feeding on the fruit structures of the plant.

They start off like armyworms, large numbers feeding on the underside of a leaf and then they disperse and feed singly.

If you have them I would not get excited, I would watch them and make sure they do not start doing something funny - out of the ordinary.

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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