

HUB OF THE PLAINS PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

A newsletter about integrated pest management for growers in Lubbock, County

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CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS

Program fields are ranging from cotyledon (replant) to match head square. The recent hot weather we have been experiencing has turned many of these fields around. Producers are shocked when they read their scouting reports and find that their three to four inch tall cotton as started to square with only four full leaves. Basically, most of the program cotton has between six and nine nodes but the plants are stunted. I really do not know if these stunted plants will retain these first squares, but with 18 to 20 heat units per day, the cotton has definitely started to grow. I have already been asked by many producers if or when to fertilize this crop. I would say that without a soil test, I would apply 50 pounds of N for every bale of cotton that I wanted to make or felt like I had time to make. Now, with that said, is this crop late? If you presently have squaring cotton, then I will say that you have plenty of time to make your yield goal. If you replanted or your cotton will not be squaring until July, then I would pull back my yield goals and N accordingly.

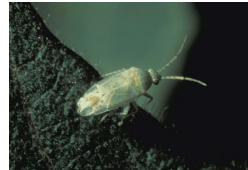
Grain sorghum fields are ranging from just emerged to eight true leaves with little or no pest problems to report. With the recent rains, most of the fields are growing rapidly and should start panicle initiation in the next fourteen days.

WHAT THE SCOUTS ARE FINDING

Cotton: We are finding **thrips** ranging from zero to over three per leaf, but for the most part the pressure is light across Lubbock County. **Cotton**

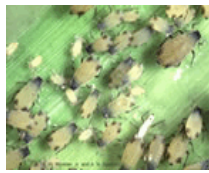


fleahoppers have been found in light populations in the weeds surrounding field margins but have not been found in recordable numbers



in squaring cotton. The decision to treat for this pest is based on number per 100 terminals combined with percent square set. The 2007 Managing Cotton Insects in the High Plains, Rolling Plains and Trans Pecos Areas of Texas states that during the first week of squaring the threshold is 25 to 30 cotton fleahoppers per 100 terminals combined with less than 90 percent square set. During the second week of squaring the threshold is 25 to 30 cotton fleahoppers per 100 terminals combined with less than 85 percent square set. Starting with the third week of squaring up to first bloom, the threshold is 25 to 30 cotton fleahoppers per 100 terminals combined with less than 75 percent square set. Now, I believe that these thresholds are a little aggressive and have conducted cotton compensation research that shows that cotton will have little or no yield loss with a 50 to 60 percent square loss depending on Fall temperatures. Now this compensation does not come from added nodes to the plants but the retention of second and third position fruit which are normally shed when first position fruit are present. I will also state that water is a key

component to compensation. If you have adequate irrigation your percent square sets can decrease. If you have little or no irrigation capacity then you need to stick with the current thresholds.



Grain Sorghum: We are finding very light populations of **corn leaf aphids** in the whorl. I personally like to see light populations of these aphids which in turn will attract and build the beneficial insect populations.

We are finding very light infestations of **Fall armyworm** in several fields on the way in or out of our scouting areas but these infestations have a long ways to go to cause the 30% leaf feeding damage that is needed in order to treat for this whorl stage pest.

Suggested Insecticides for control of cotton fleahoppers and Lygus.

Insecticide	Formulated amount per acre	
	Fleahopper	Lygus
Address® 75S	4 - 5.33 oz.	10.66 - 21.33 oz
Address® 90S	3.34 - 4 oz	9 - 17.77
Orthene® 90S	3.34 - 4 oz	9 - 17.77
Orthene® 97	3.10 - 3.71 oz	8 - 16 oz
Intruder 70 WP	0.6-1.1 oz	----
Capture® 2E	----	2.6 - 6.4 oz
Baythroid® 2E	----	1.6 - 2.6 oz
Leverage® 2.7SE	----	3.75 oz
Karate® 1E	----	2.56 - 3.84 oz
Karate® 2.08 CS	----	1.28 - 1.92 oz
Ammo® 2.5 E	----	2 - 5 oz
Decis® 1.5 E	----	1.11 - 1.62 oz
Lorsban® 4E	6 - 16 oz	----
Bidrin® 8E	0.8 - 3.2 oz	8 oz
Dimethoate® 2.67E	5.3 - 10.5 oz	10.7 oz
Dimethoate® 4E	4 - 8 oz	8 oz
Dimethoate® 5E	3.2 - 6.4 oz	6.4 oz

Asana XL® 0.66E	----	5.8 - 9.6 oz
Proaxis 0.5 E	----	2.56 - 3.84 oz
Prolex 1.25 E	----	1.02 - 1.54 oz
Provado® 1.6F	3.75 oz	3.75 oz
Trimax 4F	1.5 oz	
Steward® 1.25SC	9.2 - 11.3 oz	----
Lannate® 2.4LV	6 - 12 oz	0.75 pt
Methyl Parathion 4E	3.2 oz	1 - 2 pts
Vydate® 2L	1 pt	1 pt
Vydate® 3.77 C-LV	8.5 oz	12.7 - 34.0oz
Centric 40 WG	1.25-2.5 oz	
Parathion 8E	----	8 - 16 oz
Scout®X-tra 0.9E	----	2.28 - 2.84 oz
Fury® 1.5 E	----	2.99 - 4.26 oz

The use of synthetic pyrethroid insecticides may increase cotton aphid numbers

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