

August 25, 2009



T-Y IPM News

Terry - Yoakum Pest Management Association

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Current Situation

Cotton has cutout all across the area. Fields in the IPM Scouting Program range from 0 Nodes Above White Flower (NAWF) to 5 NAWF, with most being around 2-3 NAWF. Fields are really shedding the smallest bolls and latest squares, this is natural as we have carried a tremendous fruit load up to this point. Many fields reached the 4 to 5 NAWF range during the first week of August which means we can now greatly reduce the water on those fields without reducing yield. We still have many late planted fields blooming. Before investing a significant amount in this late crop realize that a white bloom on August 21 (last Friday) has less than a 50% chance of making a harvestable boll before a freeze.

Grain Sorghum is generally heading out. We still have fall armyworms present, however they generally are below treatment thresholds. Sorghum midge (pictured to right) may become a problem for these late blooming fields, see the publication *Managing Insect and Mite Pests of Texas Sorghum* for details about midge scouting and thresholds. This publication is available at the local Texas AgriLIFE Extension office or online at: <http://terry-tx.tamu.edu/pubcat.cfm?COUNTY=Terry&CatID=342>.

In peanuts we are beginning to spider mite infestations. These are currently very small and limited in size. Peanuts continue to move toward maturity. I expect to see diggers in Spanish and Valencia fields in about 10 days or so. With that said, I would encourage growers of Spanish and Valencia peanuts to do a hull scrape this week to get a good idea of how each field is maturing. The current weather will tend to hasten maturity. The hot, dry weather has kept disease issues at a minimum during the past month, however if the forecast shows set in we could see significant increases in disease issues. If you need to apply any fungicides in the near future, be sure to check the pre-harvest interval and select a product which will fit your harvest timing.



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Spider mites tend to occur in hot, dry periods and often occur in fields with a history of spider mite infestations. As you look across a field, an infestation will have the appearance of a drought stressed spot. Upon closer examination you'll find a mottling of the leaf color. Spider mite feeding leaves a white speckling on the leaves. The mites themselves can often be seen with the naked eye. Products labeled for spider mite control include: Danitol, Comite and Omite. Please see the *Texas Peanut Production Guide* for more details: <http://terry-tx.tamu.edu/pubcat.cfm?COUNTY=Terry&CatID=827>.



Spider mite damage in peanuts will appear as a droughty spot in the field (left). However there will be a mottling of the leaf color (far left) as mites feed on the leaves. Severe infestations will cause defoliation of vines.

Mark Your Calendars

Peanut Field Day; September 1, 2009. Dinner and Registration at 5:00PM, Field Tour begins at 6:00PM. This tour will highlight research conducted by Texas AgriLIFE Research, the USDA National Peanut Laboratory, New Mexico State University and Texas Tech University. The location will be the Delwin Marrow farm on FM 403, 9 miles South of the B. E. Implement John Deer dealership in Brownfield, TX. For more information contact Dr. Calvin Trostle 806.746.6101; Dr. Paxton Payton 806.723.5218 or Dr. Naveen Puppala 575.693.9094.

Wheat and Cotton Workshop; September 4, 2009 at the Texas AgriLIFE Extension Office, 209 South 5th, Brownfield Texas. This workshop will provide attendees with information on winter wheat production and the benefit of incorporating wheat in cotton. September 4, 9:00-11:00 AM. Contact Chris Bishop for details, 806.637.4060.

Yoakum County Farm Tour, September 9, 2009. Registration and donuts begin at 8:00 AM at the Plains Community Building, program begins at 8:30. The tour will end with lunch provided at the community building.

Terry County Farm Tour, September 17, 2009. Registration and donuts at 8:00 AM at First Baptist Church, Brownfield, Texas. Buses Depart at 9:00. The tour will culminate with lunch and award presentations at the First Baptist Church.

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T-Y IPM News is a publication of Texas AgriLife Extension IPM Program in Terry and Yoakum Counties.

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