

Lower Rolling Plains Pest Management News

Jones

Mitchell

Nolan

Scurry

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General Situation

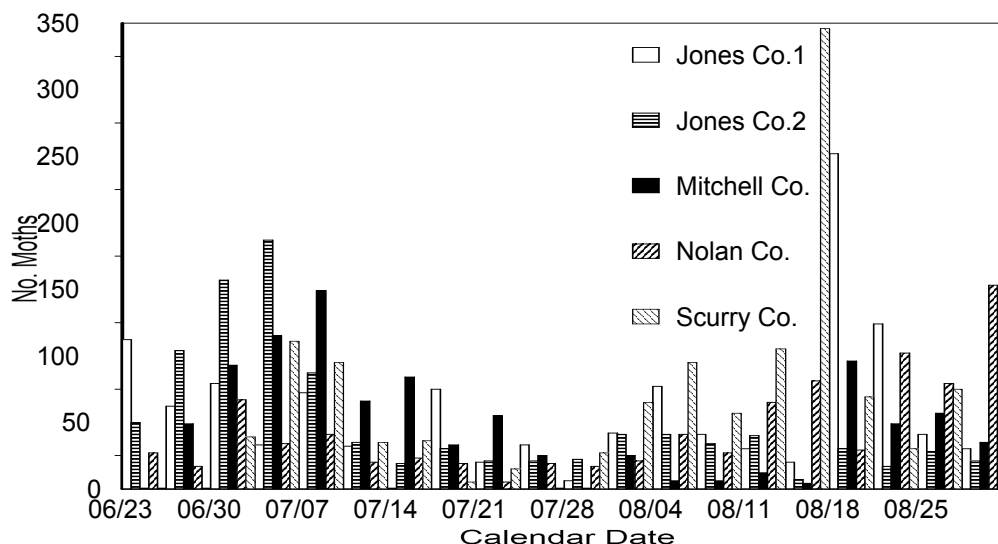
Rain showers around Sweetwater and Roscoe on Sunday and Monday were a pleasant surprise. But, producers around Fluvanna were victims of a hail storm. Temperatures have been mild since our rainy spell from August 14 to August 19. Since August 15th, our daily highs have been as low as 67.9 °F to 93.1 °F and the daily low temperatures have not made it into the 70's. This has resulted in daily heat units being much lower (5.6 to 18.6) than we were accumulating in July.

Cotton bollworm moth numbers in traps have been tapering off since the peak on August 18. But, numbers in the Nolan county trap went back up this Thursday. The scout in Jones county and I have not seen any significant egg lay or larval numbers in the fields we have scouted. Also, we are not finding any problems with Fall armyworms. The beneficial insect numbers continue to be good in the fields. We are finding spiders, big-eyed bugs, minute pirate bugs, lace wing larvae, and lady beetles. Cotton fleahoppers have been relatively easy to find. They should not be considered a pest because the small squares that they should eat would not have time to make a good boll. The fleahoppers are actually serving as a beneficial because they can be feeding on other insects. Cotton aphids can be seen in the fields but they have been in very low numbers in fields I have been scouting.

Sorghum midge in flowering grain sorghum heads have been in very low numbers. The cooler temperatures and more humid conditions may help midge numbers to increase. On Wednesday, August 27th, a producer and I were finding small worms in his fields that were heading. Most of the larvae were 1 to 2 days old but some had hatched that day. And, a few were from 1/4 to a 1/2 inch in size. In

previous newsletters (vol.11, no. 6 and no. 7) I had provided information about economic threshold determination and a listing of insecticide products. These newsletters can be found on the my website (<http://lrpimp.tamu.edu>) and clicking on the link to Local Pest Management Newsletters and Reports. As stated in these newsletters, treatments are not

Cotton Bollworm Moth Traps



recommended for larvae smaller than 1/4 inch long. This is because natural mortality and predation from other insects can be high. Please review these newsletters for specifics on calculating the treatment threshold.

Wheat

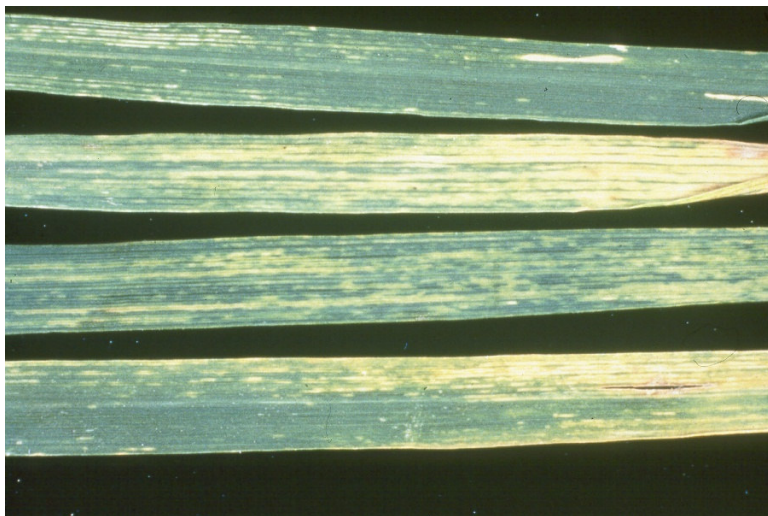
Now that we have had some rains, individuals are preparing to plant wheat. Some will be deciding on whether to graze, utilize the wheat for dual purposes (grazing and yield), or harvest for grain only. Your decision will influence which variety to choose and your options for minimizing or preventing possible wheat disease infections and insect pest infestations. I am attaching a table that rates wheat varieties according to their susceptibility or resistance to diseases and pests. Keep in mind there is no one silver bullet or superior wheat variety that is resistant to all diseases and pests. Different varieties will have better resistance or tolerance to some diseases and pests than other varieties. For example TAM 112 is a greenbug resistant variety and does express resistance to the Wheat curl mite. But it is somewhat susceptible to wheat streak mosaic virus and may become infected. Also, very few varieties have high levels of resistance to any of the diseases. This would mean all varieties could be infected with diseases depending on the severity of the disease pressure.

One of our best management strategies is to prevent the disease infection and insect infestation from ever getting started. This is accomplished by destroying grassy weeds and volunteer wheat 21 days prior to planting and by delaying wheat plantings. This breaks the "green bridge" that would allow the insects or diseases from moving into your seedling wheat. Breaking this cycle can be effective against the wheat curl mite, which transmits wheat streak mosaic virus, High Plains virus, and triticum mosaic virus (see photos). These three viruses are indistinguishable by looking at the plant symptoms. The wheat curl mites are extremely small (1/100-inch long) and can not be seen without the aid of a microscope or 20X hand lens. Eliminating the "green bridge" is helpful in reducing greenbug, Hessian fly, and fall armyworm infestations. Therefore, taking time to kill weeds with herbicides or by tilling the field and then delaying plantings may prevent problems later in the season.

We have had Fall armyworms in grain sorghum all summer long. So, the potential for Fall armyworm infestations in seedling wheat will continue to be a threat until there is a freeze.



Wheat Curl Mite infested wheat leaf.



Leaves infected with Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus. Picture from KSU Department of Plant Pathology website.

Weed Control

There have been a couple inquiries about weed control in cotton and grain sorghum. The first was a situation where silver leaf nightshade populations were heavy in late planted conventional cotton field.

Dr. Wayne Keeling, weed scientist at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Lubbock, suggested hold off on spraying until the field had 50% or greater bolls opened. Then spraying over the top with glyphosate. His previous studies showed that the root of the nightshades would be killed and there would be a 70% reduction of nightshade the next season.

The other situations dealt with controlling broadleaf weeds and volunteer wheat in grain sorghum that was at the beginning stages of head development. Dr. Keeling suggested spraying Direx @ 1 1/2 pt/ac plus 1 qt. of crop oil with a hooded sprayer to kill the broadleaf weeds. In the field with volunteer wheat, the suggestion was to spray gramoxone inteon @ 16 fl. oz./ac with a non-ionic surfactant (do not use a crop oil). He cautioned about getting chemical on the grain sorghum plants. So, the top nozzles should be plugged and use a nozzle, like the Turbo TeeJet, to reduce fine droplet particles. He did not think it was a good idea to use glyphosate because grain sorghum is extremely sensitive to this herbicide. Even if, the grain sorghum was not killed, the movement of glyphosate within the plant may adversely affect grain yield.

Master Marketer Program

Texas AgriLife Extension Service will be hosting its Master Marketer program in San Angelo, TX starting in January 2009. The Master Marketer is an in-depth, intensive risk management education training that teaches participants how to develop marketing plans, evaluate marketing alternatives, manage production and price risk and help teach the skills and discipline necessary to execute a risk management and marketing plan. The cost of the program is \$250. Contact Bill Thompson at (325) 653-4576 if you have any questions. More information on Master Marketer can also be found at: <http://agecoext.tamu.edu/programs/marketing/master-marketer.html>. You can also register for the program on line at: <http://AgriLifevents.tamu.edu>.

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Table 1. 2007 Wheat Varieties Diseases and Insect Ratings for West Central Texas.

Variety	Released and/or Sold by	First Year Sold	Maturity Group	Plant Height	Leaf Rust	Stem Rust	Powdery Mildew	Septoria	Wheat Streak Mosaic	Wheat Curl Mite	Hessian Fly
Ag Seco 7853	Ag Seco	1997	Medium	Medium	MS	MR	MR	S	I	-	S
AP502 CL	AgriPro	2003	Medium	Medium	S	MR	R	MR	MR	S	S
Caddo	Texas	1963	Medium	Tall	S	MS	-	-	S	S	S
Century	Oklahoma	1986	Medium Late	Tall	S	MS	R	MS	S	MR	MS
Chisholm	Oklahoma	1983	Medium Early	Medium	S	S	S	S	MR	S	MS
Cimarron	Oklahoma	1990	Medium Early	Medium	MR	MR	I	I	S	S	S
Collin	Texas	1986	Early	Short	MR+	MR	MS	MS	S	S	S
Coronado	AgriPro	1997	Medium Early	Medium	MS	MR	MR	MS	MS	-	I
Custer	Oklahoma	1997	Medium Early	Medium	MS	MR	MR	MS	S	-	S
Cutter	AgriPro	2003	Medium	Medium	S	R	S	MR	T	-	S
Deliver*	Oklahoma	2005	Late	Medium	I	MS	-	-	S	S	S
Dumas	AgriPro	2001	Medium	Medium	MS	MR	MS	R	MS	S	S
Endurance	Oklahoma	2005	Medium Late	Medium	I	MS	-	-	S	S	S
Fannin	AgriPro	2005	Medium Early	Medium	MR	R	R	MR	MS	S	S
HG-9*	Hardeman Grain	1995	Medium Late	Tall	I	MS	MS	-	S	S	S
Hondo	AgriPro	2000	Late	Medium	MR	MR	-	-	-	-	S
Ike	Kansas	1994	Late	Tall	S	MR	HR	MS	S	-	HR
Jagalene	AgriPro	2003	Medium	Medium	S	R	S	MR	T	-	S
Jagger	Kansas	1994	Early	Medium	MS	MR	MS	MR	MR	-	S
Karl	Kansas	1988	Early	Tall	S	MS	MR	I	S	S	S
Karl 92	Kansas	1992	Early	Tall	S	MS	MR	I	S	S	S
Kojak*	AgriPro	2008	Medium Late	Tall	MR	MR	MR	-	S	S	S
Lockett**	Texas	1997	Late	Tall	S	-	-	-	-	-	S
Longhorn*	AgriPro	1991	Medium Late	Tall	I	HR	MR	MR	MR	S	S
812	MBS Seeds	1980	Early	Short	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
814	MBS Seeds	1989	Medium Early	Short	MS	-	S	-	S	S	S
822	MBS Seeds	1993	Medium	Short	MS	MS	MR	MS	MS	MS	S
Ogallala	AgriPro	1994	Medium	Medium	I	MR	MS	I	I	MR	S
Osage	Okla./Texas	1974	Medium Late	Tall	MR	-	-	-	S	S	S
Overly	Kansas	2003	Early	Medium	MS	MR	-	-	S	S	S
2137	Kansas	1995	Medium	Medium	MS	MS	MR	MR	MR	-	HR
2145	Kansas	2002	Medium	Medium	M	MR	S	S	S	S	I
2157	TX, OK, and KS	1984	Medium Early	Medium	MS	S	S	MS	S	S	HR

Table 1. Continued											
Variety	Released and/or Sold by	First Year Sold	Maturity Group	Plant Height	Leaf Rust	Stem Rust	Powdery Mildew	Septoria	Wheat Streak Mosaic	Wheat Curl Mite	Hessian Fly
2158	TX, OK, and KS	1990	Medium	Medium	S	MR	S	MS	S	S	HR
2163	TX, OK, and KS	1989	Medium	Medium	MS	MR	HR	MR	MR	S	HR
2174	Oklahoma	1997	Medium Late	Medium	MS	MS	HR	MR	MS	-	S
2180	TX, OK, and KS	1987	Medium Early	Short	MS	MR	S	S	S	S	R
Russian*	Origin Unknown	1917	Medium Late	Tall	MR	-	I	-	S	S	S
Scout 66	Nebraska/ USDA	1967	Medium Early	Medium	MS	MR	I	MS	MS	S	S
Siouxland 89	Texas/ Nebraska	1989	Medium Late	Tall	MR+	MR	R	MR	MR	S	S
Stanton	Kansas	2003	Medium Late	Medium	MR	MR	-	-	S	S	MS
Sturdy	Texas	1966	Medium	Short	S	MS	MS	S	S	S	S
Sturdy 2K	Texas	2004	Medium	Medium	I	I	-	S	S	S	S
TAM 101	Texas	1971	Medium	Medium	S	MS	S	S	MS	S	S
TAM 105	Texas	1979	Medium	Medium	S	MS	S	S	S	S	S
TAM 107	Texas	1984	Medium	Medium	S	MR	HR	MS	I	MR	S
TAM 109*	Texas	1991	Medium	Medium	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
TAM 110	Texas	1996	Medium Early	Medium	MS	MR	HR	MS	I	HR	S
TAM110 CL	Texas	2003	Medium	Medium	S	MR	R	MR	MR	S	S
TAM 111	Texas	2003	Medium	Medium	S	R	-	-	I	S	S
TAM 112	Texas	2006	Medium Early	Medium	MS	MR	HR	MS	I	HR	S
TAM 202	Texas	1992	Medium	Short	MS	R	R	S	S	S	S
TAM 302	Texas	1997	Medium	Medium	MS	-	MR	MR	-	-	S
TAM 400	Texas	2001	Medium	Medium	I	MS	MR	MR	S	S	R
Thunderbolt	AgriPro	1998	Medium	Medium	MR	MS	MS	R	MR	S	S
Tomahawk	AgriPro	1991	Medium Late	Medium	MR	MR	MR	MS	MS	-	S
Tonkawa	Oklahoma	1997	Medium	Medium	R	-	-	-	-	-	S
Triumph 64	J. Danne	1964	Early	Tall	MS	MS	MS	S	MR	S	S
Voyager	RSI	1997	Medium Late	Tall	R	-	-	-	-	-	S
WeatherMaster-135*	-	-	Medium Late	Tall	-	-	-	-	S	S	S
WinMaster*	Abilene Ag	1995	Medium Late	Tall	-	-	MS	-	S	S	S
WinTex*	Bredemeyer's	1991	Medium Late	Tall	MR	-	S	-	S	S	S

* Denotes awnless varieties

** Denotes semi-awnless varieties

Disease and Insect rating abbreviations are: HR=Highly Resistant, MR=Moderately Resistant, I=Intermediate, MS=Moderately Susceptible, S=Susceptible, and T=Tolerant.