

# Pest Management News

News About integrated pest management for  
producers in Runnels-Tom Green Counties

Richard Minzenmayer  
Extension Agent-IPM  
613 Hutchins Ave., Room 302  
Ballinger, Tx 76821  
Phone (325) 365-5212 Fax (365) 365-5212  
TPMA Website: <http://www.tpma.org>

June 01, 2007  
Vol. XX No.06  
E-mail: [r-minzenmayer@tamu.edu](mailto:r-minzenmayer@tamu.edu)  
Website: <http://ipm.tamu.edu>  
Mobile (325) 365-1292  
Runnels County Website: <http://runnels-tx.tamu.edu>

## GENERAL SITUATION

Cotton planters are running in high gear and small grain harvest has begun. Cotton ranges in growth from 2<sup>nd</sup> true leaf to still in the bag. Most of the irrigated cotton is planted and producers are starting to plant dryland fields now as fields dry out. Some areas of Runnels County is still extremely wet and it will be another week or so before planting can resume.

The wet condition is a blessing but it does have some negative side effects. The wet condition has produced a healthy crop of weeds not only in the fields but also ditches, pastures, etc. With the large acreage of wheat planted in the area and the excellent crop of weeds, thrips could be a problem this year. You can't stop thrips movement from maturing wheat and weeds, but you can prevent colonization in the cotton. Where thrips are expected to be a problem, a seed treatment may be necessary. Once cotton is up to a stand, it's susceptible to thrips damage. Monitor cotton fields regularly for thrips damage. Thrips damage can be characterized by leaf cupping and leaves curling upwards. Silvering of the lower leaf surface is another characteristic. Seed treatments such as Cruiser® can often provide 21-28 days of protection after planting. Foliar insecticides recommended for thrips control include Address® 75 S @ 2-4 oz./acre; Address® 90 S @ 1.67-3.2 oz./acre, Orthene® 90 S @ 1.67-3.2 oz./acre; Bidrin® 8 E @ 2 oz./acre and dimethoate 4 E @ 4-8 oz./acre.

**Herbicide Restrictions.** Herbicide restrictions are still in effect from May 26<sup>th</sup> through September 30 in the area north of the Colorado River and West of Hwy 83 in Runnels County. Permits are required if you are planning on spraying in this area between these dates using 2,4-D formulations, dicamba, and other hormone type herbicides.

## WHEAT HARVEST

Wheat harvest started this week and early observations show a lot of variability in grain yields. Seems Tom Green county suffered most from the Easter freeze. Runnels county producers said they could see spots in the field where damage was evident but most areas were fine. Bushel weights were averaging 58 to 60 lbs.; yields were around 40 bushels per acre.