

Pest Management News

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

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GENERAL SITUATION

Cotton has made a lot of progress the past three weeks. Rainfall amounts varied from two-tenths (at my house) to over 2.5-inches (Winters, Wall communities). Producers have been wondering when they could turn irrigation pumps off. If you were fortunate to receive 2-inches or so, you should be able to cut pumps off. Late grain sorghum should be monitored regularly for sorghum midge, headworms and greenbugs. Sorghum midge and headworms are present in damaging numbers in several fields.

COTTON

There have been a lot of questions from producers pertaining to irrigation termination. Several factors should be considered when making this decision such as soil moisture levels, recent rainfall, maturity of crop, etc. According to work performed by Warren Multer the past four years, irrigation termination can be initiated at 400-500 HU's after cut-out (4-5 NAWF) without a loss to yield.

If cut-out was reached on August 25th (4-5 NAWF) and HU accumulation averaged 15 HU's per day, then we would be safe to cut pumps off around September 20. Rainfall events will certainly play into this decision. Current ET's are less than 0.1 per day, so a 2-inch rain could carry the current crop to the end if cut-out was achieved around August 20-25.

Don't be concerned with these late season blooms. Research has shown that it takes approximately 800-850 HU's to produce a harvestable boll. The yearly average for heat units accumulated during the month of September is 403. That means for a September 1 bloom to make a harvestable boll, we would still need to accumulate an additional 400 HU's in October and November to mature it out. It would have to remain above average temperatures for this to happen. Forget about those late Blooms.

Nematode Management. I participated in the World Cotton Research Conference held in Lubbock this past week and there were a couple of sessions worth mentioning.

Dr. William Gazaway (Albarn University) stated losses to Reniform nematodes in the U.S. since 2000 were up 5%. Reniform nematodes account for \$212.6 million in losses each year within the U.S. Alabama losses in 2006 equaled \$27 million. He stated that this nematode has the ability to spread very easily on dirty equipment and that they have experienced a significant increase in the number of counties infected with this pest since 2000. The initial control tactic was with Telone® II @ 3 gallons per acre or Temik® @ 5-7 lbs/acre. They found this does not always work. Crop rotation is the best solution. Two years out of cotton is better than one year. Stressed cotton will show more symptoms and have less ability to survive nematode damage.

Dr. Guilherme L. Asmus from Brazil indicated that Reniform nematodes have increased 3-fold since 2001. Prior to 2001, only a few counties were infected. Today infected areas have increased significantly. This increase is probably due to the fact they plant soybeans in September and harvest in January and cotton is instantly planted behind the soybeans. They are trying to get producers to use corn as a rotational crop to help reduce infestation levels.

So, in summary, where Reniform nematode is a problem rotate to a grain crop for at least one year.

SMALL GRAIN

Fall planting is right around the corner and wheat seed saved from last year's crop may or may not be so good. It may be a good idea to spend \$9 and get a germination test on your planting seed. TDA provides this service and seed can be sent to one of the following labs for testing.

Giddings Seed Lab
1010 CR 226
Giddings, Tx 78942

(979) 542-3691

Lubbock Seed Lab
4502 Englewood Ave
Lubbock, Tx 79414

(806) 799-0017

Stephenville Lab
241 E. McNeill
Stephenville, Tx 76401

(254) 965-5097

Cost is \$9 per sample and they need a 2 lb sample. It requires 7-14 days for germination tests. Let me know if you need additional information.

EVENTS COMING UP

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OCTOBER 10 & 11!!!!!! Runnels Cotton Tour is Wednesday, October 10 and Tom Green Cotton Tour is Thursday, October 11. Please keep a lookout for more information in the newsletter, newspapers, posters and on our website as the time draws nearer. We look forward to having you with us.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next turnrow meetings will be at Wall Coop on Tuesday, September 18, 2007 and at Ballinger Coop on Wednesday, September 19, 2007 at 8:30 a.m.

Tom Green Bollworm Moth Traps

Date	Trap-1 Zea-Total moths trapped	Average daily # trapped	Trap-2 Zea-Total moths trapped	Average daily # trapped	Trap-3 Zea-Total moths trapped	Average daily # trapped
8/28	113	28.3	282	70.5	189	47.3
8/30	74	37	103	51.5	138	69
9/04 traps taken up	136	27.2	103	20.6	190	38

Runnels Bollworm Moth Traps

Date	Trap-1 Zea-Total moths trapped	Average daily # trapped	Trap-2 Zea-Total moths trapped	Average daily # trapped
8/25	82	27.3	0	0
8/28	114	38	1	.34
9/04 trap taken up	25	3.6	0	0

Tom Green Budworm Moth Traps

Date	Trap-1 Wilde Total moths trapped	Average daily # trapped
8/30	8	4
9/04	7	1.4

Rowena

Heat Accumulations	2006	2007	Rainfall	
Planting Date	Sept 06	Sept 06	April	2.95
May 01	2658.2	2229.8	May	7.36
May 15	2488.1	2083.4	June	6.74
June 01	2188.9	1888.6	July	1.29
June 10	2000.3	1718.2	August	3.14
June 15	1871.9	1617.6	September	0.07

Wall

Heat Accumulations	2006	2007	Rainfall	
Planting Date	Sept 06	Sept 06	April	.84
May 01	2726.9	2036.5	May	2.74
May 15	2452.2	1992.3	June	4.58
June 01	2192.5	1799.8	July	2.56
June 10	1997.8	1636.1	August	5.13
June 15	1871.6	1533.1	September	.50