

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

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## GENERAL SITUATION

Moisture conditions improved early in January and really helped attitudes and wheat has responded well. We are certainly not out of the drought yet but the recent rainfall has certainly helped.

Hessian Fly infestations have been found in a number of wheat fields in Concho and Tom Green Counties. The infestations are severe, in some cases, causing significant damage. This is uncommon to see this level of infestation this early in the growing season. Usually it's March before this much damage is evident.

Aglogic L.L.C. announced December 22, 2011 the U.S. EPA registration of MEYMIK 15G Aldicarb pesticide. This replaces Temik® 15G. The U.S. EPA approved MEYMIK 15G aldicarb granular pesticide for use on cotton, peanuts, sugar beets, dry beans, sweet potatoes, and soybeans to control certain nematodes, insects and mites. Supplies will be very limited in 2012 but it is certainly good news that it will be available for our use in the future.

## WHEAT

The wheat crop is looking good right now. The rain last week was a welcome sight. We will need additional rainfall but this will carry us on down the road. Greenbugs remain low but with the warm temperatures continue to check wheat fields regularly. They could sneak up on us if we let our guard down.

There are some heavy infestations of hessian fly in Tom Green and Concho counties. The wheat fields experiencing the heaviest infestations had volunteer wheat growing in or adjacent to the wheat field. It is extremely important to destroy all volunteer wheat early. If not, the hessian fly will get a jump start. A number of these wheat fields are planted to Coronado and was treated with Gaucho®. The seed treatments only suppress infestations and generally only lasts about 45 days. The fact that Coronado is failing tells us that we are probably dealing with a new biotype. A biotype in insects is defined as insects that appear similar in form but differ in some way genetically. In hessian flies,

different biotypes are distinguished from each other in their ability to infest different varieties of wheat.

***Life Cycle.*** Annually, there can be two generations of the Hessian Fly in the fall and another two generations in the spring. In September, the fly lays eggs in seedling wheat or volunteer wheat. The insect survives the summer in the flaxseed stage in wheat stubble. This shiny brown, seed-like puparium is found at the base of old plant crowns, and also may occur in the straw, near the nodes behind the leaf sheaths. A 1" or better rain in late August or early September triggers fly emergence. Volunteer wheat or wheat planted early will be in the seedling stage when flies emerge.

Some newer wheat varieties that show some resistance to hessian flies include: Duster, Deliver (Beardless, used primarily for grazing) and Hatcher.

## COTTON

Enclosed are the results from the 2011 cotton variety tests. We certainly appreciate our cooperators allowing us to establish, monitor and harvest these trials. If you have any questions on any of the trials, please give me a call.

## CALENDAR INFORMATION



A **“Last Chance Pesticide License CEU Program”** will be held on February 9, 2012 from 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm in the auditorium at the Texas A&M Research & Extension Center in San Angelo, Tx.

Address is 7887 U.S. Hwy 87 North. Registration Fee is \$25. A total of 5 ceus will be given (1 General, 2 IPM, 1 Laws & Regs, 1 Drift Min.). For more information & to RSVP please call the Tom Green Co. Extension Office (659-6522 or 659-6524)

### AGENDA

- 12:30 - 12:50 Registration
- 12:50 - 1:00 Welcome & Introductions - Steve Sturtz, CEA
- 1:00 - 2:00 Laws & Regulations, Corey Pence, Texas Department of Agriculture, San Angelo
- 2:00 - 3:00 Toxic Plant ID & Control, Alyson McDonald, Exten. Specialist- Range Management, Tx AgriLife Exten.
- 3:00 - 3:15 Break
- 3:15 - 4:15 Lawn & Weed Control, Allison Watkins, CEA-Horticulture, Tom Green County, Tx AgriLife Extension
- 4:15 - 5:15 IPM Concepts, Dr. Chris Sansone, Ext. Entomologist, Texas AgriLife Extension
- 5:15 - 6:15 Drift Minimization, Dr. Billy Warrick, Retired Extension Agronomist, Texas AgriLife Extension
- 6:15 Adjourn & Issue CEU Certificates

Extension Programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. We will seek to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for this meeting. We request that you contact our office as soon as possible to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service that you will require.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for the AgriPlex Ag Day, Tuesday March 27, 2012, to be held at the Ballinger Community Center in Ballinger.

PEST MANAGEMENT NEWS  
NEWSLETTER RENEWAL



“Pest Management News” is a newsletter which provides timely, accurate and pertinent information in the areas of crop production within the Southern Rolling Plains. Newsletters are written weekly during the growing season and a total of ten were issued in 2011. This newsletter will keep you abreast of current insect pest populations, natural enemies, biological and cultural control tactics and chemical control options. It will also provide the user with economic thresholds and other management tools to assist the farm operator in making management decisions.

**NOTE: The subscription fee will be \$15 to cover the cost of postage.** If you are interested in receiving this newsletter during 2012, please fill out subscription form and return along with \$15.00 to “**Pest Management News,**” 613 Hutchins Ave., Room 302, Ballinger, Tx 76821, payable to “**Pest Management News**” by April 19, 2012.