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PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

NEWS ABOUT INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT IN GLASSCOCK, REAGAN AND UPTON COUNTIES

GENERAL SITUATION

Hot and dry. Scattered showers have resulted in rainfall up to 2 inches in a few isolated spots north & east of Garden City. Several hundred acres were also lost to hail in the Friday storm. Thrips are still present in moderate to high numbers in some fields, but most are getting past the stage that thrips cause economic damage. Beet Armyworm egg masses and extremely small larvae have been found scattered in area fields over the past 10 days or so. It appears the Bollgard II® technology is controlling them well.

SCOUT SAFETY

If you are spraying the field the scouts are checking, please contact them or myself so they will not be unnecessarily exposed to pesticides. Thanks

SCOUTING PROGRAM

The scouts are still counting thrips in the pre-squaring cotton, but are beginning to count fleahoppers and do square sets in cotton as it begins to square.

THRIPS

Some area fields near wheat or pastures have significant populations of thrips and damage while other fields do not. Even though we did not have significant amounts of wheat or weed hosts, the thrips are concentrating on the few acres of irrigated cotton available. Most fields are very near or past the thrips susceptible stage which is 5-6 true leaves.

FLEAHOPPERS

Fleahoppers ranged from 0-7 per 100 plants and square sets ranged from 98-100%. All fields that are beginning to square should be checked for an increase in fleahopper numbers or a decrease in square set. Fleahopper adults & nymphs feed on small squares causing them to abort delaying maturity and affecting yield.

Visually checking plants for adults and nymphs and checking the square set should be done. The economic threshold is 25-30 fleahoppers per 100 plants and the square set dropping below 75% in the first 3-4 weeks of squaring.

BEET ARMYWORMS

The scouts are finding beet armyworm egg masses and tiny larvae in several area fields. We are not, however, finding larger larvae or terminal damage as we have seen in the past. Survival of these larvae in small cotton is not very good, plus the Bollgard II® technology should be helping control this pest.

BOLL WEEVILS

No boll weevils have been caught this year by the Eradication folks. This is a good sign because late May & early June is the time for peak emergence from overwintering.

WHITE GRUBS

Enclosed is an article by Dr. Mark Muegge concerning white grubs and their control.

TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 24 9:00 am Glasscock Coop
 Wednesday, June 25 9:00 am Midkiff Coop
 Tuesday, July 1 NO TURNROW MEETING
 Wednesday, July 2 NO TURNROW MEETING

HEAT UNITS

Heat units averaged 27 per day the past week. Heat units since 5-10, 5-20, 5-30 and 6-9 are compared with last year and a five year average in the table below.

DATE	5/10	5/20	5/30	6/9
2008	596	504	471	237
2007	466	423	315	147
5 YEAR AVERAGE	645	540	394	200

WEATHER DATA

Weather data for the past two weeks is included in the table that follows:

DATE	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	RAIN	AVG WIND SPEED	SOIL TEMP
6/4	102	74	0	20	84
6/5	99	73	0	21	84
6/6	89	69	0	12	83
6/7	94	75	0	24	83
6/8	95	73	0	22	83
6/9	97	72	0	13	83
6/10	97	68	0	14	84
6/11	100	73	0	21	84
6/12	101	73	0	16	84
6/13	101	73	0	13	85
6/14	99	72	0	11	85
6/15	102	73	0	14	86
6/16	104	75	0	15	86
6/17	100	73	0	12	86

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