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PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

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

GENERAL SITUATION

Cotton ranges from 0-5 nodes above white flower. The first green bolls are slowing up on some early planted fields. We have now reached the time when white blooms have less chance of making a harvestable boll. Stink bugs have reached economic levels in several area fields. Cooler weather seems to be in the forecast which may slow maturity of area crops. Most cotton will have enough time to mature but the grain sorghum may be a close race to the finish.

STINK BUGS

Stink bugs have become the insect of most interest in cotton at this time. Several fields have reached the economic threshold of stink bugs over the past week and have been treated while others show little to no damage and stink bug numbers are low. Please get out and check your fields as we have seen significant damage in the past.

We are seeing the conchuela stink bug which is grayish-black with orange markings but we are also seeing high numbers of the red shouldered bug in some fields. This bug is narrower than the conchuela, grayish-black with red marking on the shoulder. Not much is known about these bugs and their damage but they have similar mouth parts as stink bugs and possible would damage bolls.

Management and decision making. Examine 6 row feet of cotton in several locations in the field. **When there is an average of one or more stink bugs per 6 feet or row, feeding can cause excessive loss of squares and small bolls and may stain lint. Additionally, at least 50 small bolls (the diameter of a quarter) should be examined. If 20 percent of the small bolls have internal injury from stink bugs and stink bugs are present then treatment**

should be considered. Stink bugs often are clumped near field margins.

If control is necessary, a pyrethroid or Methyl Parathion would be the chemical of choice. If a pyrethroid is used, watch for aphid buildup.

COTTON APHIDS

We have seen extremely low aphid numbers all season.

SORGHUM

Worms are still feeding in the whorl of sorghum but numbers have decreased in some fields and damage to emerging heads has been insignificant. We should be watching for midge as it begins to bloom and headworms. A couple of early fields that are headed out have headworms present.

Enclosed is an article from Calvin Trostle on how grain sorghum develops.

WHEAT

With good moisture, some people are considering planting wheat soon. I would be careful about planting too early because of the number of fall armyworms we now have in grain sorghum and the problems we had in past years with early wheat. If you plant early, be prepared to scout young wheat and treat if necessary.

PESKY MOTHS

We have been invaded by millions of moths around area houses. These moths are not a pest of area crops. Preliminary identification is a Mesquite Leaf Tier Moth. There is not anything you can do to get rid of them. It usually takes from 1-3 weeks for them to run their course.

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://AgriLifeevents.tamu.edu>.

PECAN WEEVILS

Pecan weevils are still emerging and the second application will be necessary to get adequate control.

TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, Sept 2 9:00 am Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, Sept 3 9:00 am Midkiff Coop

TRI-COUNTY CROP TOUR & DR. BILLY WARRICK RETIREMENT

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

2:30 PM

MEET AT ST. LAWRENCE HALL

AGENDA: WE WILL BE TOURING SEVERAL AREA COTTON DEMONSTRATIONS AND STOPPING AT A GRAIN SORGHUM FIELD TO DISCUSS SORGHUM DEVELOPMENT WITH JIM BARBER FROM TEXAS AGRILIFE EXTENSION, LUBBOCK.

ROB HOGAN, ECONOMIST FROM FT. STOCKTON WILL DISCUSS COTTON MARKET UPDATES.

WE WILL ALSO BE HONORING DR. BILLY WARRICK IN HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 32 YEARS OF EXTENSION SERVICE.

SOCIAL & MEAL TO FOLLOW TOUR

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
8/14	93	66	0	3	83
8/15	87	65	0	7	83
8/16	75	64	1.12	6	82
8/17	71	66	1.25	6	77
8/18	81	66	0	4	77
8/19	80	64	0	0	78
8/20	82	61	0	3	77
8/21	90	66	0	6	78
8/22	89	63	0	7	81
8/23	80	66	0	3	80
8/24	87	65	0	3	80
8/25	88	63	0	3	81
8/26	90	64	0	4	82
8/27	88	66	0	6	83

HEAT UNITS

Heat units averaged 16 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	1950	1858	1826	1591
2007	1738	1695	1586	1419
5 YEAR AVERAGE	2001	1895	1749	1555

Cotton development by calendar days and heat units.

Growth Interval	Calendar Days		Accumulated heat units (DD60's from planting required*)
	Mean	Range	
Planting to:			
Stand Establishment	7	5-13	78
First true leaf	16	11-25	
Squaring	36	29-41	526
1/3-grown square	44	36-49	
First bloom	61	45-81	1064
Peak bloom	79	59-102	
First open boll	96	88-106	1641
95% mature bolls	146	129-163	2271

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