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PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

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

GENERAL SITUATION

Cotton planting is quickly approaching with most fields having good to excellent moisture. Weed control with burn-down herbicides or tillage is taking place in many area fields.

SCOUTING PROGRAM

We are taking applications for Insect Scouts until May 14th. Contact my office at 354-2477 or one of the County offices in Reagan or Upton Counties. They will begin work on June 7th with scout school.

2012 FARM BILL HEARING

There are several hearings being held across the country to get input on the 2012 Farm Bill. The following is the nearest location.

When: Monday, May 17 - 9:00 am
Where: Texas Tech Museum
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, TX

Even though this is right in the middle of cotton planting, the St. Lawrence Cotton Growers Board highly recommends that anyone who can, attend.

COTTON PLANTING AND SOIL TEMPERATURES

Soil temperatures over the last 10 days averaged 63° at the 8 inch depth in undisturbed bare soil. This is still a little

cool but some planting will probably begin around the 10th.

MAILING LIST UPDATE

We are updating our mailing list. If you do not want to continue to receive the newsletter, or if you would like to change the way you are receiving the newsletter (ex: from paper to e-mail) please contact our office and let us know. If you like the way you are receiving it now, no response is necessary.

WEATHER STATION ACCESS

You can access weather information that is updated every 15 minutes on the West Texas Mesonet site on the internet. The address is www.mesonet.ttu.edu. The St. Lawrence station is on the Kenneth Braden farm.

FERTILIZER RECOMMENDATIONS

Many of you have already applied your pre-plant fertilizers on irrigated land with a blend higher in Phosphorus and will follow with additional Nitrogen through the season. I realize it is a little late, but a soil test would still give you a more accurate determination of what nutrients you are short on for a particular yield goal

Soil tests have generally been taken in the 0-6 inch level, but several studies have shown residual nutrients at higher levels in the 1-2 foot range. An additional sample from this depth may be helpful.

Soil moisture looks good at this time in most dryland fields. With the last several crops of cotton and grain sorghum

pulled off of the these fields, you should consider applying some fertilizer back to these fields. I would look at using some 32-00 or something like a 20-10-0 blend. This can be applied pre-plant or side dressed up to squaring.

When determining what fertilizer to use, I would be most concerned about spending my money on the Nitrogen and Phosphorus recommended by the soil test and not a lot of soil amendments.

PEST MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The Pest Management Annual Report with all demonstrations and research reports from 2009 is available. If you would like a copy and did not get one at the St. Lawrence Cotton Growers Annual Meeting or at one of the gins, give us a call at 432-354-2477.

SEED TREATMENTS AND IN-FURROW INSECTICIDES

I have received many questions concerning use of these products for thrips control and their affect on wireworms.

The in-furrow such as Temik® gives the best and longest control of thrips, depending on rate used, but also costs more and you need application equipment. It does not appear to have much affect on wireworms.

The seed treatments such as Cruiser®, Gaucho®, Aeris® or Avicta® are less expensive but probably won't last as long in general. They do appear to have decent wireworm suppression from a test we had last year.

The Aeris® and Avicta® treatments include additional products for nematodes and or disease that increase their cost.

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
4/22	83	55	.26	17	63
4/23	71	48	0	18	63
4/24	77	50	0	14	61
4/25	78	46	0	5	61
4/26	75	49	0	10	62
4/27	72	42	0	6	62
4/28	84	49	0	14	62
4/29	90	60	0	18	64
4/30	78	54	0	9	65
5/1	64	79	0.07	6	65
5/2	75	41	0	11	62
5/3	75	48	0	8	62
5/4	92	46	0	9	62
5/5	91	51	0	6	64

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