

The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Newsletter for Row Crops in the Lower Rio Grande Valley

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General Situation

Rain, Rain, and more Rain! We received reports of 0.10 to 7 inches total rain for this week. With a majority of the valley receiving around 3 to 5 inches total rain for the week. Sorghum harvesting has come to a halt in a majority of the valley. Depending on the amount of rainfall, growers will hopefully be able to get back into the fields in the next 2 to 3 days.

Some cotton fields have open bolls that were subjected to the rains during this week. However, a majority of the fields are just starting to have open cotton. The rain will help to finish off the top crop in cotton fields that have not been flooded. We have observed and received reports that bolls and squares have been shed in fields that stood under water for several days during the previous rain storms.

Bollworm egg counts averaged 0.5 eggs per plant in a field north of Mercedes and 0.6 in a field east of Sebastian. Small (1st, 2nd, and 3rd instar) bollworm/tobacco budworm larvae averaged 60 per 100 plants in a field northeast of Combes. Tobacco budworm trap catches averaged 21, 76, and 79 per day north of Weslaco, north of Combes, and north of the Sugar Mill respectively. Bollworm trap catches remained low (See Table below).

Acresage Reports

According to the National Agriculture Statistics Service the Lower Rio Grande Valley (Cameron, Hidalgo, Willacy, and Starr Counties) has a total of 530,000 acres of grain sorghum and 100,000 acres of cotton this year.

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SUMMARY

Cotton Moth Trapping in the LRGV, 2007

Location	Species	Average number per trap per day										
		4/30	5/7	5/14	5/21	6/4	6/11	6/14	6/20	6/27	7/3	7/7
North of Weslaco	Bollworm	1	0.6	3.1	1.7	2.9	fallen	0.5	0.8	4.1	1.0	2.3
	Tobacco Budworm	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.7	2.5	5	4.6	2.7	21.3
	Beet armyworm	2.1	2.1	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.1	0	0.2	2.1	2.2	4.3
North of Combes	Bollworm	-	-	-	-	2	8	1	0.9	0.8	0.7	3.4
	Tobacco Budworm	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1	7.7	3.0	76.0
North of SugarMill	Bollworm	-	-	-	-	7.5	7.1	5.5	1.7	6.1	1.0	6.7
	Tobacco Budworm	-	-	-	-	-	-	57.6	0.2	10.3	1.2	79.0