

Pest Management Report

NEWS ABOUT INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT IN FRIO AND ATASCOSA COUNTIES

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General

In general it is hot here in the Wintergarden area. Two weeks ago temperatures were struggling to reach 90°, now we are well over 100°. Hot temperatures and no rain for the last three weeks has dried out the entire area. A good general rain would help perk up the crops and get peanuts out of the ground.

Peanuts

Peanuts are cracking and coming along pretty good right now. Windy conditions are tearing up some of the newly emerged plants, but with warm days and a little water they will quickly grow out of this. Now is the time to make sure weeds are controlled. If you have any escapes from pre-emergent herbicides, these escapes should be controlled while they are still young.

Cotton

Insects are probably our biggest concern in cotton right now. Thrips are still a factor in the youngest cotton, and cotton fleahoppers have been sprayed in several fields. I have not seen any worm pressure yet, but they are capable of flaring up at any time, especially if applications are being made for boll weevils. Cotton is putting on squares and starting to bloom, pest control and water is of primary importance. Continue to have fields scouted at least once a week.

Other Crops

Oats and wheat are being harvested right now, and for the most part, look good. Corn and sorghum is looking good, but unfortunately these high temperatures could affect pollination. A cool spell with a little rain would be great right now. For corn that has already pollinated, corn earworm is the biggest concern. However, corn earworm are difficult to control and control is seldom effective due to the fact that eggs are laid on silks and larvae tunnel into the ears.

Vegetable Meeting

The Texas Vegetable Association and Texas Cooperative Extension will host a vegetable meeting at the Brush Country Steakhouse on June 24, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. This event will provide vegetable growers and others information on issues about the vegetable industry in the Wintergarden area. Registration is \$10.00 for TVA members and \$20.00 for non-members. Breakfast will be ordered for those who register in advance. Advanced registration ends Tuesday, June 22, 2004. For more information, contact Bill Lyckman at (956)584-1681 or Brad Easterling at (830)334-3290.

Frio & Atascosa IPM Scouting Program

The IPM Program will once again be scouting peanuts along with cotton this year for area producers. The

scouting program focuses on insect, weed, and disease pests in peanuts and cotton. Fields will be scouted weekly and reports will be provided. For more information contact Brad Easterling at (830)334-3290.

Boll Weevil Eradication

Be sure to report all cotton acreage to the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation. The assessment for 2004 is \$23.14 per land acre. For more information or to sign up your acres, call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Office in Uvalde at (830)278-1774.

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