

Pest Management Report

NEWS ABOUT INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT IN FRIO AND ATASCOSA COUNTIES

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General

Wet, wet, wet! Frio and Atascosa counties have received extremely large amounts of rain over the past two weeks, especially the Dilley and Divot areas. Totals of over 10 inches were reported in one day with overall totals above 15 inches for the two weeks. Around Pearsall and east through Atascosa county rainfall was 3-7 inches.

Peanuts

Tomato spotted wilt virus has been a hot topic this summer with many fields hitting high levels already. Several fields are in the 15-20% range and climbing. Late planted fields are generally the worst, but a few early planted fields have high levels of TSWV. Early and late leafspot is being held in check with fungicides, but could see an increase with all of this wet weather we have been having. Southern blight has been showing up for the first time or increasing in just about every field I have looked at so far. Fungicides are doing a great job of controlling souther blight as long as applications are made in a timely manner. Rust has been found in both counties and the rain will help spread the disease. With early planted peanuts being harvested before long, we could see rust spreading quickly.

Cotton

Rain is not what cotton needed right now with most of the crop either needing to be defoliated or already spreading. Lint is being pulled from bolls and plants are greening back up and starting to put on new leaves. The cool, wet weather is also reducing the effectiveness of harvest aids. If anyone has any questions on defoliating cotton or stalk destruction give me a call and we can discuss some options for your fields, several fields in the Dilley area have already been harvested with overall yields of slightly more than 2 bales.

Crop Tour

The 2004 Frio/Atascosa counties crop tour will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2004. Registration will be at the Frio county extension office at 8:00 a.m. Dinner will be served and TDA and CCA CEU's will be offered. Anyone planning to attend should RSVP by September 21, 2004. For more information contact Brad Easterling at (830)334-3290.

Texas Country Clean-up

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality along with the Atascosa Texas Cooperative Extension office will host a Texas Clean-up on **September 23, 2004** from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at the Atascosa county show barn and fairgrounds (on Hwy. 97 at

intersection of Hwy 97 and FM 3510 in between GMC dealership and livestock auction).. Items to be accepted include....

- *used motor & filters

- *lead acid batteries

- *properly rinsed plastic pesticide containers

They will also be accepting certain pesticide and agricultural chemicals. For more information please contact Atascosa County Agent Joe Taylor at (830)769-3066 or Brad Easterling at (830)334-3290.

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Brad Easterling, EA-IPM