

Pest Management Report

NEWS ABOUT INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT IN FRIO AND ATASCOSA COUNTIES

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November 5, 2004

Volume 3, No. 17

General

Winter conditions have finally arrived to South Texas with temperatures dipping down into the low 40's. We also received between 1.5-2.5 in. of rain last weekend which has slowed peanut harvest. To this point yields have varied greatly, primarily due to tomato spotted wilt virus (TSWV). Cotton harvest looks to be finished up with yields ranging from 1-3.5 bales/ac. Wheat & oats are still being planted in some areas, mostly behind peanuts or cotton. Fields that have already been planted are looking good with the recent rain.

Peanuts

Peanuts still continue to show varying yields, mostly due to the levels of TSWV and how early in the year fields became infested. I have heard yield reports anywhere from 80-135 bu/ac. Rust is spreading right now with all of the combines spreading spores into the air. Growers should keep an eye out for rust when harvesting fields adjacent to later planted fields. Also keep in mind the pre-harvest interval for most fungicides if you are considering treating fields.

Cotton

Not a lot to say about cotton anymore except that it was a pretty good year with a lot of rain. Most everyone achieved their target yields whether it was dryland or irrigated. Remember that all harvestable cotton must be destroyed by now, so if

you have stalks greening back up or seedlings emerging, they need to be plowed or sprayed before they put on any squares.

Other Crops

Wheat & oats are looking good right now with the help of the recent rains. Several fields have cattle on them right now. Fall sorghum is also doing quite well. Vegetables such as spinach and cabbage are making good progress.

Beltwide Cotton Conference

The Beltwide Cotton Conference is going to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana on January 4-7, 2005. Early registration ends December 1, 2004. Anyone needing more information can come by my office or go to <http://beltwide.cotton.org>

Committee Meeting

The Frio County IPM & Field crops committees will have a meeting on November 22, 2004 at noon in the Extension office conference room. We ask that everyone on these two committees try and make the meeting as we will be working on the Annual Ag. Increment Report and discussing a possible merger of the Frio & Atascosa County Peanut Growers Associations. A noon meal will be provided.

Last Chance CEU's

The Frio County Extension Office will have a last

chance CEU program on December 10, 2004. The program will be from 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. and 8 CEU's will be given. You will only have to be present for the CEU's that you need. An agenda will be sent out in next month's newsletter.

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