

Blacklands IPM Newsletter

P.O. Box 318

Hillsboro, TX 76645

May 29, 2003

Vol. IX No. 6

Hill-McLennan County

Marty Jungman

Extension Agent-Pest Management

Office: 254/582-3551 Fax: 254/582-4021

Web Site: entowww.tamu.edu

E-Mail: m-jungman@tamu.edu

GENERAL SITUATION

Cool temperatures and showers have helped the development of corn and grain sorghum. The majority of the area is still in need of additional rainfall and will start to suffer with the hotter temperatures. A number of fields of corn have begun to tassel and scattered fields of grain sorghum have started to head. Most of the corn will range from pre-tasseling to tasseling. Most of the grain sorghum will range from pre-boot to heading. Cotton growth stage will range from cotyledon to just past 1/3 grown square. The majority of the cotton will range from match-head to 1/3 grown square. The showers we received over the past 10 days has helped to achieve a stand, in some cases, where the stand was thin to begin with. This was in some drier areas.

WHEAT

Wheat harvest is in full swing after being delayed due to showers. In general, wheat yields are better than expected.

CORN and GRAIN SORGHUM

Chinch bugs continue to be a problem in some area fields.

Greenbugs will range from light to almost moderate in numbers. Beneficial activity is on the increase.

Yellow sugarcane aphids are in non-existent to light

numbers.

Corn leaf aphids have decreased in numbers in a number of fields due to rainfall and the milo is starting to boot and/or head.

Grasshoppers appear to be in good numbers in some places while in others they are relatively light. As of right now, it does not appear that we have as many grasshopper numbers as we had before, but there are certainly areas where the grasshoppers are in higher levels. The crops; corn, grain sorghum and cotton are more advanced in comparison to the size of the grasshoppers, 2/3 inch and smaller. I have seen very little damage in crops next to pastures, waterways and roadsides. This is not to say later in the season we will see some insecticide applications sprayed on the edges of the fields as the grasshoppers achieve more size. Applications will definitely go out later as compared to the stage of the crop.

Spider mites have been seen in a few area corn and grain sorghum fields, on the edges next to pastures, waterways and roadsides. This is a very limited area in the field.

COTTON

Cotton has continued to progress rapidly. The majority of the cotton is probably a week ahead of normal.

Thrips will range from light to heavy numbers. The majority of the cotton is past thrips damage. The later

planted cotton should be monitored closely for thrips. We are seeing more thrips pressure on this later planted cotton. Cotton with Orthene® and Cruiser® seed treatments and soil insecticides should be monitored closely for thrips damage.

Cotton aphids will range from non-existent to light in numbers. I have seen one field with moderate aphid numbers on scattered plants. Aphid numbers usually increase once insecticide applications begin to go out for thrips, fleahoppers and overwintered boll weevils. This year we continue to see light aphid numbers.

Spider mites will vary from non-existent to light in numbers. In most fields, spider mites are in very light to non-existent numbers.

Fleahoppers will range in numbers from 2-60 per 100 terminals. Producers are currently applying two insecticide applications for fleahoppers/overwintered boll weevils to achieve a good percent square set. Percent square set will range from 55-80%. Some of the cotton has set well while other fields have not.

Beet armyworms larvae are being seen in light numbers in some area fields. We are seeing considerably less numbers of beetle armyworm in the field. Beetle armyworm trap counts are in light numbers.

BEE T ARMYWORM TRAP COUNT

	2003	2002
5/20	156	113
5/27	14	40

Overwintered boll weevil trap counts are light to moderate. Total weevil trap captures for the week was 19 as compared to two this time last year.

I would urge all producers to apply one to two insecticide applications for overwintered weevils. Producers should try to complete overwintered weevil/fleahopper insecticide applications by June 4 and start building up beneficial insects. In most cases producers will be wrapping up insecticide applications by the latter part of this week. On later planted cotton there will be some applications going out next week.

**OVERWINTERING BOLL WEEVIL
PHEROMONE TRAP CATCHES**

AREA/PRODUCER	5/13	5/20	5/27
ITASCA/COVINGTON:			
Loren Weaver	0	0	1
James Ray Schronk	0	0	2
CHATT:			
Edwin Hejl	0	0	1
Barney Pustejovsky	0	3	0
Joe Sinkule	0	1	0
BYNUM:			
Leroy Walters	0	0	0
Ronnie Nowlin	0	0	0
BRANDON:			
Larry Degner #1	0	0	0
Aaron Walters	1	0	0
MALONE:			
Charles Trompler	0	11	4
Ronnie Radke	1	0	3
Kenneth Machac	3	2	5
Larry Degner #2	0	0	0
WEST/COTTONWOOD:			
John C. Polansky	0	0	0
Richard Holy	1	0	0
PENELOPE:			
Thomas Holy	0	0	0
AQUILLA:			
Ronnie Gerik #1	0	0	1
Ronnie Gerik #2	2	0	0
Dennis Gerik	1	1	2