

## “Rio Blanco” Integrated Pest Management Update

### Update on Integrated Pest Management in Crosby and Floyd Counties

**Steve Davis - Extension Agent - IPM - 201 West Aspen, Suite 011 - Crosbyton 79322**  
**phone: (806) 675-2426; Cell (806) 789-7912; fax (806) 675- 2348**

**E-mail: [sgdavis@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:sgdavis@ag.tamu.edu)**

**Website: <http://entowww.tamu.edu>**

**Vol. 3, No. 6**

**June 26 , 2003**

**Cotton producers** should be aware of the potential for cotton fleahopper problems in the older, earlier planted crop that survived the bad weather and is beginning to square. These pests have not been reported from program acres, but the potential exists as well as that of Lygus bugs in the first weeks of squaring. Both species are extremely hard to detect for the untrained eye and, on a windy day, may go totally undetected. Plant damage thresholds regarding squaring percentage and retention are directly affected. In the **first week** of squaring, square sets of **less than 90%** with presence of **fleahoppers at 25 to 30 per 100 terminals** and/or **one lygus (adult or nymph) per 3 feet of row** is justification for chemical intervention. In some storm-damaged fields, the plant may not look normal as in years past and it is extremely important to find those **first fruiting positions** so that initial damage may be alleviated. With this year being what it has, these first few weeks of squaring are critical if a crop is to be set. Again, these pests have not been reported from our local program fields, but growers should be aware of the potential. Information regarding these and other early season cotton pests is available on-line or through your local Texas Cooperative Extension County or District office.

Heat unit accumulations are adequate for our season but distribution and consistency of these accumulations has been erratic. Even early cotton is behind from previous years.

**Thrips** numbers have shown a reduction in remaining program cotton fields. There is still a potential for thrips damage, however, program fields are not being affected at this time.

**Trap** counts for lepidopterous pests have remained low. Data from this week show;

A) Bollworm	16 moths/trap
Budworm	Damaged
Beet Army	20
B) Bollworm	12
Budworm	7
BAW	23
C) Bollworm	9
Budworm	0
BAW	18

A new Lepidoptera pheromone trap has been placed in all trapping sites to try and capture a new potential pest for cotton, ***Heliothis armigera***. It is not known if this insect exists here but this is one way to find out. More information to follow if these traps yield this particular pest.

**Heat unit accumulations** for cotton through June 19<sup>th</sup> are;

<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
680	888	840	767

The information herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement is implied by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service. Educational programs conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, handicap or national origin.

**Steve Davis**  
**Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management**  
**Crosby and Floyd Counties**