



## “Rio Blanco” Integrated Pest Management Update

Vital Crop Production Information for **Crosby** and **Floyd** Counties

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☛ **Cotton** maturity in Crosby and Floyd Counties is generally past cut out with a few late fields at 2 nodes above white flower. Most irrigated fields have 2 to 3 open bolls at the bottom of 15 to 25 % of the plants.

☛ Latest heat unit accumulations are **2,113** HU's through Sept. 9, 2005, (since January 1) with the average for the same time frame for the past **5** years yielding approximately **2,568** HU's accumulated for that same period. From May 1 through Sept. 9, 2005, there have been **2,054** HU's accumulated.

Growth Stage	From Emergence	From Previous Stage
1 <sup>st</sup> True Leaf	16	16
Pin-head Square	455	439
Match-head Square	560	105
1/3 Grown Square	770	210
First Bloom	1064	294
First Open Boll	1641	577
95% Mature Bolls	2271	630

☛ **Dr. Randy Boman**, Area Extension Cotton Specialist, and **Dr. Peter Dotray**, Area Extension Weed Specialist, will be in Crosby County on **September 28, 2005**, for the **annual crop tour**. We will begin the tour just north of the intersection of County Roads 165 and 130. This is approximately six miles north (Hwy 62/207) and two miles east (County Road 130) from downtown Ralls. This agenda provided by Steve Young, Crosby County CEA:

10:00 Meet at Regan Ware Farm

Cotton Variety Trial, PGR Trial, and Harvest aide test that will be in the area.

11:45 Ralls Community room, Meal provided by area businesses and local industry representatives.

An educational meeting and sponsor comments will follow the meal.

1:00 Depart for Appling Farm

Dryland systems trial and herbicide trial.

2:30 Parkhill Farm to tour irrigated cotton variety trial.

Continuing Education Units (2.5 General and 0.5 IPM) will be provided.

We would ask that attendees please respond by Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, in order that **all** will be provided lunch.

☛ **Fall armyworms** have, for the most part, vanished for this year, although an occasional worm can be found in some late-blooming fields. Beneficial predators seem to be controlling most worms and a few egg masses have been found that simply didn't hatch.

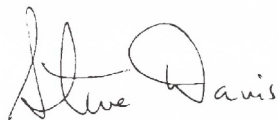
☛ **Cotton aphids** are still persisting in some late fields - some that were treated early with pyrethroids alone, some that were treated with 'aphicide' two or more weeks ago, and some that have not been sprayed at all. Winged aphids have been, and continue to be re-infesting fields that have maintained blooms throughout this last two-week period. The good story is that beneficial predator insects (Lady beetles, etc.) and parasitic wasps (evidenced by "mummified" aphids) are continuing to whittle on the overall aphid population. With continued favorable conditions, beneficials should maintain control over this pest.

☛ **Spider Mites** have been found in cotton in a field close to Petersburg. Due to the time of year and the degree of infestation, no treatment is justified at this time. Mites can

severely disrupt cotton production at certain times of the year causing excessive defoliation and boll shed.

• This is the last regularly scheduled newsletter for this growing season. Additional news will be posted to alert clientele of upcoming meetings and/or any problems noted in wheat.

The Crosby/Floyd IPM Program has expanded to include wheat and other small grains this year for \$2.00 per acre. Information will be provided regarding insect, disease and weed pests. Irrigation scheduling assistance will also be provided for center pivot customers.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Davis". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

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