


Issues In Agriculture

The Newsletter About Integrated Pest Management for the El Paso Valley

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There is still some room in the cotton scouting program for producers who don't have a crop consultant. This scouting program will offer weekly (or twice a week if needed) scouting of cotton for insect pests and monitoring of plant growth. This service will cost \$5/acre and space is limited to 1,200 acres with fields under 20 acres not accepted.



PECANS

The Pecan Insect Workshop held on Wednesday, May 19, allowed for producers and researchers to discuss the pecan nut casebearer situation in the El Paso Valley. Eggs were reported found as early as last Wednesday, May 12, but most PNC eggs were spotted over the weekend or on Monday. Egg development seems to be speeding right along with the warm temperatures we have had the last couple of days; so don't think that if you have only green eggs then you don't have to worry just yet.

For those who have already sprayed, it is essential that you go back and check a couple days to a week after your spray. Products have been known to fail, and it is much preferred to have noted if an insecticide treatment didn't work seven days after the product was applied rather than 14 days later when you are looking at an orchard with 25% infested nuts. As the saying goes, "Scouting is cheap."

COTTON

Cotton is looking great! There is some 4-leaf cotton out there, and with these temperatures I'm sure it all is going to start taking off. Weed control in the first six weeks of the season is critical as the weeds compete with those little cotton plants for nutrients and water. Producers using herbicide-resistant varieties must be aware of the time limitations of Roundup Ready varieties. Over the top glyphosate-type herbicides must be applied before the fifth true leaf emerges. After this point in the plant development, producers should use equipment such as hooded and post-directed sprayers that minimize the herbicide's contact with the plant.



DEGREE DAY AND WEATHER INFORMATION

	2004 Upper Valley	2004 Lower Valley	2003 Lower Valley	2002 Lower Valley
PBW <i>Jan. 1</i>	713.5	727	670	837.5
Cotton <i>April 15</i>	325	330.5	322.5	366.5
Pecans <i>Jan. 1</i>	2416.5	2514.5	2574.5	2612.5
PNC <i>March 20</i>	1701.5	1712.5	1644	1692

Temperatures as of May 20, 2004

RAIN/MOISTURE RECEIVED AS OF MAY 20, 2004:

DEPUTY FARMS: 2.07 "

RIO BRAVO FARMS: 3.74"

The above information was obtained from the Texas Evapotranspiration Network. Texas ET contains weather information, evapotranspiration, and crop watering recommendations. Individual weather stations have been placed at Rio Bravo Farms near Tornillo and at Deputy Farms in the Upper Valley. The weather stations record daily temperatures (high and low), relative humidity, rain received, wind speed, as well as crop water requirements and DD information.

This information is updated daily and is available on the internet at <http://texaset.tamu.edu>. Locations are Deputy Farms and Art Ivey Farms. If you need any help using this website, please call the El Paso Extension Office and ask for Ray Bader or Sarah Downing. Please use this website as it is an excellent service.

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