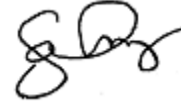


Issues In Agriculture

The Newsletter About Integrated Pest Management for the El Paso Valley

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:



DON'T FORGET The Mid-Season Cotton Management Workshop will be held from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m on July 31, 2003 at the Texas A&M Research Center. This workshop will focus on harvest aid decisions, sticky cotton management, and explain the ET Weather stations. If you have any questions, please contact us at (915)859-7725. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

***** 3 CEU's will be offered*****

COTTON:

Insect Report There has been quite a few new insects showing up in the survey program's fields. Overall, there are still persistent **plant bug** (cotton flea hopper and lygus) populations in a few fields; numbers are ranging from 0/40 plants to 6/40 plants. Fruit retention is still very good in most of the fields averaging around 85%. **Bollworm** eggs and small worms are starting to show up in fields again. Eggs are ranging from a high of 7,187/acre to 0/acre. Small worms are found in low numbers from 1,653/acre to 0/acre. All these numbers are based on 40 plants visually inspected and using the plant population of each field. **Beneficial insects** are being found in the survey fields from 7,187/acre to 16,466 beneficials/acre.

ALERT!!!! Stink bugs are starting to be seen in our survey fields. We have seen the Conchuela stink bug in almost every one of the fields surveyed this week. (The Conchuela stink bug is black with an orange margin around the edges of their body.) Stink bugs feed by inserting their syringe like mouthparts into various parts of the plant (particularly the bolls) to suck up juices. Their feeding activity usually causes small bolls to abort and in larger bolls causes a wart like growth on the carpal wall and stains the cotton lint. The feeding activity also provides an entrance for bacteria, which can cause boll rotting. Sampling for stink bugs can be accomplished by placing one's arm behind approximately 3 row feet of cotton plants then vigorously shaking the plant against the ground. Check for stink bugs that fall to

the ground then move a few feet down for the next sample. However, stink bugs can easily be seen climbing about the cotton early in the morning before the late morning heat. But don't let this fool you into just counting the ones you see, as there may be stink bugs present in the bottom part of the plant that may be missed. Quarter size bolls can also be checked for feeding damage. Current economic thresholds are ambiguous at best and range from 1.5 - 5 stink bugs /10 row feet or 20% damaged bolls. Suggested insecticides for stink bug management are listed in the table below.

<i>Insecticides</i>	<i>Formulated Amount/ Acre</i>	<i>Insecticide Class</i>
Orthene 90 S (Acephate)	0.8 lbs/ acre	Organ ophosphate
Capture 2E (Bifenthrin)	2.6 - 6.4 oz./ acre	Pyrethroid
Baythroid 2 (Cyfluthrin)	1.2 - 2.6 oz./ acre	Pyrethroid
Leverage 2.7SE (Cyfluthrin+ Imidacloprid)	3 oz./ acre	Pyrethroid + Neonicitinoid
Karate 2.08 CS (Cyhalothrin)	1.6 - 2.56 oz./acre	Pyrethroid
Decis 1.5 E (Deltamethrin)	1.6 - 2.56 oz./acre	Pyrethroid
Bidrin 8E (Dicrotophos)	8 oz. / acre	Organ ophosphate
Methyl Parathion 4E	1-2 pts./acre	Organ ophosphate
Vydate 3.77 C-LV (Oxamyl)	11.2 - 17.0 oz./ acre	Carba mate
Parathion 8E	8 - 12 oz./ acre	Organ phosphote

*The information given herein is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Extension Service is implied.

COTTON CON'T:

Plant Growth Stage Cotton is still blooming with most fields ranging from 6-12 NAWF. Fields in the survey program continue to have excellent fruit retention, but the heat last week has caused some shed.

PECANS:

Last week I reported on the avicide DRC-1339 available through the Texas Wildlife Damage Management group. I wanted to make sure that it is clear that this is not an Extension program, it is a pilot project of TWDM. I have spoken with personnel in College Station and they will be making the decision as to whether or not to include El Paso in the pilot project. This will depend on if they have adequate personnel to cover this area. One note, this program will require a fair amount of work on the part of the producer. There will be a training meeting and a number of other requirements that must be completed to be included in the program. For more information, please feel free to contact my office regarding this project @ (915)859-7725.

DEGREE DAY AND WEATHER INFORMATION:

COTTON - As of July 24, 2003

	2003	2002	2001
January 1 (PBW)	2258	2412	2296
April 15 (Cotton)	1539	1621	1572.5

PECANS - As of July 24, 2003

	2003	2002	2001
January 1	5211.5	5279.5	5212
March 20 (PNC)	4281	4508.5	4388

RAIN/MOISTURE RECEIVED AS OF JULY 24, 2003: 5.04 inches

Reported by Rio Bravo Farms in Tornillo, Texas

We will seek to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities to any of our meetings. We request that you contact the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at (915) 859-7725, one week in advance to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service you will require. Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

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