

# HUB OF THE PLAINS PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

*A newsletter about integrated pest management for growers in Lubbock County*

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***IN THIS ISSUE:***

- \* **CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS**
- \* **WHAT THE SCOUTS ARE FINDING**
- \* **PLANT POPULATION AS IT RELATES TO COTTON GROWTH AND**

**CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS**

Most of the Scouting Program cotton is between five and three nodes above white bloom. I am concerned with the late planted cotton in the area and the inputs that are being thrown at this late crop. Most of the late planted fields are averaging eight nodes above white bloom and with the recent rains, these fields are growing like gang busters. On the plus side, water requirements of most of the program fields have decreased and with the recent rains, many area producers have been resting their wells. This time of year always starts with the age old question of when can I turn off my wells? We do know that the water demand for cotton will decrease after bloom. And I do know that if you shut down your wells now, you will lose more top fruit than 25,000 bollworms per acre could destroy. For the most part, when the bolls are filled on the positions that will make a good harvestable boll, we can turn the water off. For most of you, that will be towards the first of September and for others, that will be mid to late September depending upon heat unit accumulations. On the late June planted cotton, producers should only apply enough irrigation to fill bolls that have time to make. Now with that said, you have two choices. You can look at the 50 year weather data and decide that you will not have enough heat units after Aug 18 to produce a good quality boll or you can look at the last five years and gamble that you can receive 850 heat units starting on August 24. Basically, this would be a very easy decision if we knew how the temperatures would be in September. We do have preliminary data

concerning this subject from 2003. The following table shows that turning the pivot off on or before 400 heat units are accumulated after cutout will result in a significant yield decrease. No significant difference in yield occurred when irrigation was terminated at 600 or 800 heat units after cutout.

Yield (lint pounds/acre) in which irrigation was terminated using different HU accumulations past cutout in a LEPA irrigation system. AG-CARES Farm, Lamesa, Texas. 2003.

Target HU Accumulation	Lint Weight (lbs.) Per Acre
400	294 b <sup>1/</sup>
600	460 a
800	481 a

<sup>1/</sup> Means in a column followed by the same letter are not different (P=0.10, LSD).

**WHAT THE SCOUTS ARE FINDING**

**Bollworm** numbers this week are ranging from zero to just over 2,000 worms per acre. Bollworm eggs are ranging from zero to 800 per acre. Reports were coming in from down south of heavy egg lays and subsequent worm infestations last week, but we are finding very few eggs in program fields. Hot spots can be found in many fields on field margins and in really lush cotton. I really do not have a good explanation as to why we are not seeing area wide worm infestations in Lubbock County. The weather pattern we are in and the time of year should be excellent for bollworm outbreaks. For those of you that have been cutout the last fourteen days, you only have five to seven days before your crop is mature enough to withstand a bollworm infestation. For those

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of you that still have eight nodes above first position white bloom, you need to predict how hot this September will be before you make the decision to treat.

Suggested Insecticides for control of bollworms

Insecticide	Formulated amount per acre
Capture® 2 E *	2.6 - 6.4 oz
Baythroid ® 2 E *	1.6 - 3.2 oz
Leverage ® 2.7 SE *	3.75 oz
Karate ® 2.08 CS *	1.6 - 2.56 oz
Ammo ® 2.5 E *	2 - 5 oz
Decis ® 1.5 E *	1.62 - 2.56 oz
Asana XL ® 0.66 E *	5.8 - 9.6 oz
Steward ® 1.25 SC	9.2 - 11.3
Lannate ® 2.4 LV	1.5 pts
Methyl Parathion (4E)	2.5 - 4 pts
Curacron ® 8 E	8 - 16 oz
Tracer ® 4 SC	2.14 - 2.9 oz
Larvin® 3.2 F	1.5 - 2.25 pts
Scout® X-tra 0.9 E *	2.56 - 3.37 oz
Fury ® 1.5 E *	2.82 - 3.83 oz

\* The synthetic pyrethroid insecticides recommended for control of bollworms also will control boll weevil.

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