

PEST MANAGEMENT NEWS

NEWS ABOUT INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT FOR PRODUCERS IN RUNNELS-TOM GREEN COUNTIES

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GENERAL SITUATION

Cooler temperatures were certainly welcomed this week. Most of the area received something less than one-inch of rain as of Thursday morning. Hopefully, additional rainfall is forthcoming in the very near future.

Cotton ranges from matchhead to three nodes above white bloom with a large percentage of program fields in the 1st to 2nd week of bloom. Generally insect pest numbers are well below threshold levels and cotton is rapidly maturing due to hot dry conditions. Spider mites continue to plague cotton producers in the Veribest area.

Grain sorghum harvest began this week and yields are looking pretty good right now. Many producers are spraying their sorghum with glyphosate when sorghum reaches 28-30% grain moisture. Fields are then harvested in 6-7 days after the glyphosate treatment.

COTTON

Fleahopper numbers were generally lower this week in program fields and square retention ranged from 80 to 92%. Producers should continue to monitor square retention and fleahopper infestations in pre-blooming cotton. Once cotton begins to bloom most of the focus should be on bollworms and aphids. Bollworm egg counts were much lower this week and larval numbers were low as well. Survival of bollworm larvae in pre-blooming cotton is generally very low. You can usually find varying numbers of small larvae but seldom do they ever reach 3/8-inch long or longer. Once cotton reaches bloom, survival increases primarily because the plant canopy is much larger and there is enough fruit present on the plant to sustain the larvae through its larval period.

Cotton aphids have declined in many fields primarily due to high numbers of lady beetles. They have done a good job of reducing aphid numbers in problem fields.

Spider mites are a real problem in cotton fields near Veribest. It is recommended to treat spider mites early when infestations are first found. Delaying treatments will only make control efforts more challenging. Oberon® was applied last Friday at a rate of 8 oz./acre by air on a cotton field which was heavily infested with spider mites and they have been reduced significantly. Keep in mind, products such as Oberon® and Zeal® are not rescue materials and are slow acting. It may take 6-7 days to clean up a field. But they do have a long residual activity. Zephyr® @ 4-8 oz./acre, Kelthane® @ 1.0-1.5 qts./acre and Curacron® @ 8-12 oz./acre are also labeled for spider mites on cotton and have performed well in the past.

TURNROW MEETINGS & DAILY INSECT REPORTS

TURNROW MEETINGS next week will be on Tuesday, August 02 at the Wall Coop Gin starting at 9:00 a.m. The second turnrow meeting is Wednesday, August 03 at the Ballinger Coop Gin starting at 8:30 a.m.

THE DAILY INSECT REPORT will continue Monday thru Friday, 325-365-2642.

Heat Accumulations

Rowena				Wall			
Heat Accumulations		Rainfall		Heat Accumulations		Rainfall	
Planting Date	July 26	January	0.46	Planting Date	July 26	January	0.58
May 01	1,551.8	February	4.57	May 01	1,577.1	February	2.46
May 15	1,436.7	March	3.43	May 15	1,461.2	March	3.88
June 1	1,195.6	April	0.06	June 01	1,210.8	April	1.24
June 10	1,023.6	May	4.21	June 10	1,042.3	May	5.85
June 15	935.4	June	0.29	June 15	950.9	June	0.27
		July 26	1.39			July 26	0.33

Pink Bollworm Traps

	Runnels 7/20	Runnels 7/27	Tom Green 7/19	Tom Green 7/26
Trap 1	36	99	2	30
Trap 2	0	3	0	73
Trap 3	36	13	18	65
Trap 4	18	11	12	121

Bollworm Traps

Date	Runnels	Date	Tom Green
7/13	1	7/12	18
7/20	8	7/19	45
7/27	0	7/26	04

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