

# **PEST MANAGEMENT NEWS**

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

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### GENERAL SITUATION

Well, it's pretty quiet this week in the cotton patch. Bollworm egg and larval counts remain very low. Lady beetles and other beneficials have done a good job of reducing and keeping aphid infestations below threshold levels and fleahopper numbers seem to have lowered as well. Cotton ranges in growth from ½ grown square to 2 nodes above white flower (NAWF).

Grain sorghum harvest is picking up steam in Runnels County and grain yields are ranging from 2,500 to 4,500 lbs./acre.

### COTTON

Cotton is progressing well with few insect problems to report. Young cotton should continue to be monitored closely for fleahoppers and square retention. Remember, it takes approximately 21 days for a pinhead square to reach bloom and another 45-50 days for the boll to reach maturity. Basically we have till around the 10<sup>th</sup> of August to set fruit. Highest fleahopper numbers this week were in the Vancourt area. Numbers ranged from 5-43 fleahoppers per 100 plants and square sets ranged from 79-86%. It's important to maintain a 75-80% square set going into bloom. Bollworm egg counts ranged from 0 to 43 bollworm eggs per 100 plants. No significant numbers of bollworm larvae were found.

Cotton physiologists define cutout to be when NAWF is equal to four or five. In this area of the state, four NAWF is the most reliable estimate. Before cutout, approximately 100 flowers will produce 1 pound of seed cotton. After cotton reaches cutout, the number of flowers needed to produce 1 pound of seed cotton increases dramatically. NAWF gives us a means of measuring the potential boll loading sites remaining on the plant.

## GRAIN SORGHUM

Grain sorghum harvest is underway and there has been a number of questions pertaining to pre-harvest application of glyphosate on grain sorghum. Pre-harvest desiccation of grain sorghum has several advantages over natural crop drying. It should permit an earlier harvest of drier grain. Weeds growing in the crop should be killed and further weed-seed production should be reduced. Also, by killing the sorghum plant, you halt further water and nutrient use by the sorghum.

If glyphosate is applied when the grain is physiologically mature (at 25 to 35% moisture), sorghum yields are not affected. Grain is at the correct moisture level when kernels at the bottom of the head (the last to mature) show an abscission layer (black layer) at the tip of the kernel. Glyphosate should be applied at a rate of 1 quart per acre. If sorghum plants are severely stressed, you may need to increase rates to 3 pints per acre.

## TURNROW MEETINGS & DAILY INSECT REPORTS

**TURNROW MEETINGS** next week will be on Tuesday, August 09 at the Wall Coop Gin starting at 9:00 a.m. The second turnrow meeting is Wednesday, August 10 at the Ballinger Coop Gin starting at 8:30 a.m.

**SPECIAL GUEST at turnrow meetings this week will be Dr. Billy Warrick. He will be speaking on weed identification, etc. If you have weeds to be identified, please bring them with you. See you there.**

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

### Heat Accumulations

#### Rowena

#### Wall

Heat Accumulations 2005		Heat Accumulations 2004		Heat Accumulations 2005		Heat Accumulations 2004	
Planting Date	Aug 01		Aug 01	Planting Date	Aug 01		Aug 01
May 01	1,660.7	May 01	1,745.1	May 01	1,681.8	May 01	1,726.7
May 15	1,545.6	May 15	1,597.3	May 15	1,565.9	May 15	1,576.2
June 01	1,304.5	June 01	1,287.0	June 01	1,315.5	June 01	1,260.8
June 10	1,132.5	June 10	1,113.1	June 10	1,147.0	June 10	1,074.6
June 15	1,044.3	June 15	997.9	June 15	1,055.6	June 15	958.8

Rainfall 2005	Month	Amount
	May	4.21
	June	0.29
	July	1.74
	August	0.0

Rainfall 2005	Month	Amount
	May	5.85
	June	0.27
	July	1.39
	August	0.0

## Pink Bollworm Traps

	Runnels 7/27	Runnels 8/03	Tom Green 7/26	Tom Green 8/02
Trap 1	99	52	30	5
Trap 2	3	12	73	72
Trap 3	13	52	65	127
Trap 4	11	0	121	68

## Bollworm Traps

Date	Runnels	Date	Tom Green
7/20	8	7/19	45
7/27	0	7/26	04
8/03	n/a	8/02	n/a

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