

PEST MANAGEMENT NEWS

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

Richard Minzenmayer
Extension Agent-IPM
613 Hutchins Ave., Room 302
Ballinger, Tx 76821
Phone (325) 365-5212 Fax (365) 365-5212
TPMA Website: <http://www.tpma.org>

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E-mail: r-minzenmayer@tamu.edu
Website: <http://ipm.tamu.edu>
Mobile (325) 365-1292



GENERAL SITUATION



Can you believe this??? It's the middle of August and our daily heat unit accumulation is less than 17 HU's per day. Our daily average HU accumulation for this time of the year is usually 21-23 HU's per day with excellent solar radiation. Rainfall amounts total 0.6-0.7-inches around Wall, 0 south of Wall, 1.0-1.5-inches around Eola and Mereta, 3 or more inches around Miles and 3.5-4.0-inches across most of Runnels County. More is expected through the weekend. The moisture is great but the weather conditions are certainly slowing down crop maturity.

Bollworm problems have slowed down dramatically this week. Looking back several weeks, you can see the area experienced an extended egg-lay which lasted about 10-12 days. Some fields took a little damage on the front side of the egg-lay and others took a little on the back side but none were devastated by this generation. We can tolerate some damage because of the heavy fruit load we have anyway. It is common to see plants shedding 2 to 3 day old bolls at this time. Anyway, we got through the storm and were not hurt too bad. Much of our cotton is well into physiological cut-out and will not be very susceptible to later bollworm infestations. All of the fields in the scouting program are at cut-out averaging 2-3 NAWF. Bollworm egg counts are very low and beneficial numbers remain fairly high.



COTTON APHIDS



Cotton aphids are still present and causing problems in some areas. Remember, the economic threshold is based on number of aphids per leaf. Insecticidal control should be delayed until infestation exceed 50 aphids per leaf. With shorter dry lengths, cooler temperatures, etc., aphid populations can build up rapidly. Fields

should be scouted twice weekly since rapid increases can occur in a short time. A total of 60 leaves divided between the top, middle, and lower portions of the plant should be sampled across the field to determine infestation levels. Intruder®, Centric® and TriMax® have all done an excellent job in controlling aphids.



SPIDERMITES



Spidermites have popped up in the Veribest area and are causing some damage to cotton fields planted adjacent to corn fields. A number of cotton fields have been perimetered sprayed and may need a second treatment next week. This wet cool weather should help reduce spidermite build-up. It's very important to attack a spidermite problem early and aggressively. Treat when mites begin to cause noticeable leaf damage. Spot treatments are encouraged when infestations are restricted to small areas. Two applications at 5-day intervals may be required for acceptable control. Curacron® @ 12-16 ounces per acre has performed well in the past. Several fields were treated with Demin® last week and it looks pretty good as well. Other products which provide good control of mites include: Zephyr®, Kelthane® and Comite®.

Budworm/Bollworm Traps								
Traps baited June 11, 2004-rebaited every two weeks								
Date	Runnels				Tom Green			
	Budworms Avg. Daily # trapped		Bollworms Avg. Daily # trapped		Budworms Avg. Daily # trapped		Bollworms Avg. Daily # trapped	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
7/21	0	.5	0	0	1	0	15.7	11.8
7/28	0	0	8.7	1.1	0	0	77.3	7.7
8/4	0	.14	1.3	0	0	0	30.3	10.3
08/13					.5	0	1.0	15.2
8/15					0	.5	6.5	4.0

Pink Bollworm Traps baited July 23, 2004-rebaited every two weeks					
Tom Green County--Average Daily Number Trapped					
Date	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3	Site 4	Site 5
7/30	10.7	7.4	1.9	12.6	12
8/5	2.3	2.3	4.5	3.2	1.5
8/17	6.9	8.2	5.3	2.1	4.8



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN AUGUST



Turnrow Meetings	Wall Coop	9:00 a.m.	Tuesday	August 24
	Ballinger Coop	8:30 a.m.	Wednesday	August 25



WEATHER INFORMATION



ROWENA

Heat Unit Accumulations			Date	ET° PET (in)	Max. Air Temp.	Min. Air Temp.	Average Wind Speed
2004 Planting Dates	July 26	Aug 01	August 07	0.1961	90	69	4.063
May 1	1630.1	1745.1	August 08	0.1366	86	70	3.620
May 15	1482.3	1597.3	August 09	0.1698	90	69	2.117
June 1	1172.0	1287.0	August 10	0.2148	94	67	1.968
June 10	998.1	1113.1	August 11	0.2640	92	67	6.022
June 15	882.9	997.9	August 12	0.2188	88	59	3.326
			August 13	0.2268	91	64	3.895
			August 14	0.2154	92	62	3.422
			August 15	0.1414	87	63	3.570
			August 16	0.1700	86	63	3.472
			August 17	0.2208	89	59	3.754

Rainfall	
June	2.89
July	2.96
Aug (as of 8/17)	0.57

WALL

Heat Unit Accumulation			Date	ET° PET (in)	Max. Air Temp.	Min. Air Temp.	Average Wind Speed
2004 Planting Dates	Aug 9	Aug 17	August 07	0.1906	88	68	3.394
May 1	1893.4	2021.5	August 08	0.1250	84	70	3.232
May 15	1742.9	1871.0	August 09	0.1353	85	70	2.494
June 1	1427.5	1555.6	August 10	0.2086	91	66	1.502
June 10	1241.3	1369.4	August 11	0.2231	86	67	5.038
June 15	1125.5	1253.6	August 12	0.2128	85	60	3.651
			August 13	0.2142	87	65	3.820
			August 14	0.2097	89	61	3.395
			August 15	0.1951	87	67	4.829
			August 16	0.2110	88	68	3.924
			August 17	0.2155	88	61	3.735

Rainfall	
May	.60
June	3.10
July	3.54
Aug (as of 8/17)	0.43

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