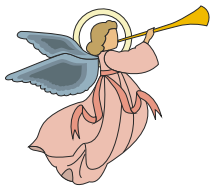


# **PEST MANAGEMENT NEWS**

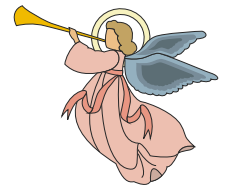
**NEWS ABOUT INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT FOR  
PRODUCERS IN RUNNELS-TOM GREEN COUNTIES**

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**WE WANT TO WISH EVERYONE  
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEWYEAR!**



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES IN 2005



Beltwide Cotton Conference will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana from January 3 thru January 7, 2005. This conference has a variety of topics that you would be interested in. If you finish harvesting cotton, you might want to check this one out.

The Concho Valley Cotton Conference will be held at the Convention Center in San Angelo on March 1, 2005. The educational program is currently being put together and will be addressing such topics as: Strip-till Cropping Systems, Weed Management, Drip Irrigation Systems, Cotton Root Rot Management and Industry Updates with industry representatives. The Southern Rolling Plains will have their annual meeting afterwards. There will also be a variety of booths for you to visit and receive information. This will be a really good program since it's geared for the local area and the problems we face here in our Southern Rolling Plains.



GENERAL SITUATION



Cotton harvest is finally coming to an end and cotton yields are record breaking in many areas of the state. Dryland lint yields of more than two bales per acre have been reported in several areas of the Concho Valley. Grades could have been a little better but overall it's been a great year for producers throughout the area.

Much of the 2004-2005 wheat crops has just been planted and is coming up to a stand. The Oct./Nov. planted wheat is up and really not doing a lot right now. Many producers are concerned with the yellowing and lack of new growth. Based on what I have seen, the majority of the yellowing is being caused by very wet conditions. These wet conditions have leached the nutrients out of the root zone and caused stress due to denitrification and lack of oxygen in the soil. If yellowing continues after conditions become more favorable, then a nitrogen fertilizer application may be considered.



## COTTON



All the cotton variety trials and seed treatment tests have been harvested and results should be to you by the middle to later part of next month. I certainly appreciate all the cooperators for establishing, maintaining and harvesting these trials. It takes a lot of time to do it right and these folks do it right.



## SMALL GRAIN



There are a number of acres planted to oats this year and some of the yellowing observed is being caused by leaf rust. This is nothing to be alarmed about at this time and the best way to combat the rust is to graze it. The leaf rust pustules are not active and will not be active in cold temperatures. Even if cases where leaf rust was active, a fungicide treatment is not economically feasible. Leaf rust is not active in cool or cold conditions. So if you had leaf rust, turn the cattle on it.

Remember that much of our wheat is very small, not actively growing right now, pretty stressed out and therefore very susceptible to greenbug damage. Once wheat is up to a stand, check regularly for presence of greenbugs. Greenbugs can cause yellowing in patches as well. Yellow or brown plants caused by greenbug feeding in spots in the field may indicate the need for treatment. Generally, the economic threshold for greenbugs is:

Plant Height	# of greenbugs per linear feet
3-6 inches	100-300
4-8 inches	200-400
6-16 inches	300-800

Occasionally as few as 25-30 greenbugs per foot of row can cause significant damage to seedling plants and may warrant treatment.