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PEST MANAGEMENT NEWS

NEWS ABOUT INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT IN GLASSCOCK, REAGAN AND UPTON COUNTIES

GENERAL SITUATION

Rainfall this past week ranged from 1¼ to 3 inches across the entire area. This will allow many dryland and some irrigated fields to be planted into moisture. Cool temperatures slowed cotton growth over the past week allowing thrips to cause more damage. Some early cotton is approaching the pin head square stage.

SCOUTING PROGRAM

The survey scouts for this year are as follows:

April Braden, Shawna Braden, Lisa Eggemeyer, Stacy Gully, Kaycee Schniers, Timothy Schniers, Tara Strube and Cody Strube. They will begin work on June 9th and 10th with scout school.

SCOUT SCHOOL

The classroom part of the insect scout school will be held on Monday, June 9th from 9:00 - 12:00 at the San Angelo Research and Extension Center. This is open to anyone interested in brushing up on their insect ID and scouting techniques.

THRIPS

More damage is evident now in early planted area cotton. The past 10 days have been cooler, slowing cotton growth and allowing the thrips to cause more damage. As temperatures warm again, cotton growth will speed up.

The general threshold for treatment is an average of one thrip per true leaf stage. You need to make thrips management decisions quickly if needed. Some suggested insecticides for thrips control are Orthene®, Bidrin® and Dimethoate®.

WEED CONTROL

With the recent rain many producers have questions about weed control. Some of you have asked how long after spraying weeds with Roundup or Glyphosates before you can plow fields. One week would be the minimum but preferably 10-14 days to allow chemical to move into root systems of perennials.

We must also be cautious of spraying glyphosate herbicide with non Roundup Ready cotton in the vicinity. Drift can cause severe problems in other fields.

GRASSHOPPERS

A few areas of high numbers of flying grasshoppers have been reported in area wheat fields near cotton. You should keep watch for their movement into the cotton.

WEATHER DATA

Weather data for the past two weeks is included in the table that follows:

DATE	HIGH TEMP	LOW TEMP	RAIN	AVG WIND SPEED	SOIL TEMP
5-20	68	51	.01	16	78
5-21	62	54	.09	5	75
5-22	82	54	0	8	73
5-23	96	59	0	10	75
5-24	98	66	.43	14	77
5-25	84	59	.7	9	76
5-26	74	58	.03	7	75
5-27	76	60	0	7	75
5-28	84	56	0	3	74
5-29	91	60	0	4	75
5-30	98	62	0	4	76
5-31	101	66	0	8	78
6-1	97	68	0	11	79
6-2	93	64	0	8	80

HEAT UNITS averaged 17 per day the past week. Heat units since 5-1, 5-15 and 6-1 are compared with last year and a five year average in the table below.

DATES	5-1	5-15	6-1
2003	537.5	283	41
2002	495	292	39.5
5 YEAR AVERAGE	524.7	319.8	38.2

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