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PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

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

GENERAL SITUATION

Cotton ranges from open bolls to just starting to bloom in the late dryland. Spotted rainfall up to .8" fell this week with most of the area receiving very little. Bollworm activity remains the major insect concern. Boll weevil activity has picked up in several fields around Garden City.

SCOUTING PROGRAM

The last three scouts have now finished working. They did a good job at a not-so-fun job. This season we have a considerable amount of cotton that is still vulnerable to latter insect danger so everyone that has these fields should be checking them.

BOLLWORM/TOBACCO BUDWORMS

- ◆ Eggs ranged from 0-3000 per acre or 0-7 per 100 plants.
- ◆ Small worms ranged from 0-8000 per acre or 0-20 per 100 plants.
- ◆ Medium worms ranged from 0-6000 per acre or 0-15 per 100 plants.

We are seeing a combination of 2-3 weeks worth of worm activity. Some fields remain fairly clean, some have been sprayed and others have sustained significant damage.

Some of the older worms are near completion of their cycle, but smaller ones are following them up and adding to the damage of the older ones. This can create difficult decisions, but we are at the point that we will not have time to replace an excessive amount of lost fruit.

Control seems to be sufficient with the pyrethroids in the fields I have checked. Many of the worms can be found in small bolls or bloom tags and have not been in contact with the chemical. A few tobacco budworm moths have been reported in the fields so we may be seeing them also. Remember they are much more difficult to control with pyrethroids.

Bt COTTON

We are finding some worms that are slipping through on Bt cotton, but I have not found a field with treatable levels yet. Some can be found in small bolls under bloom tags on the ground. If these emerge from the bolls and move back up the plant, we could see problems.

I do not get concerned with worms in Bt fields until they get to the 1/4-3/8" size in sufficient numbers.

BOLL WEEVILS

Punctured square counts and adult weevils have become more numerous in some fields in the Garden City vicinity. One field east of Garden City is being treated for weevils. If you have fields in this area, you should be pulling squares or small bolls checking for weevil punctures.

PINK BOLLWORMS

Infested boll counts up to 20% have been found in some fields. Several fields have now been treated with pyrethroids for bollworms which will help lower moth numbers now, but activity will increase again. Mist blower treatments from field margins are also keeping moth numbers and boll infestations down.

STINK BUGS

We are still finding scattered stink bug activity. There may be some fields with significant numbers, but not widespread. Keep checking your fields.

IRRIGATION TERMINATION

The big question is when to terminate irrigation. Much of the cotton needs additional moisture to finish latter bolls. I might consider more frequent, smaller irrigations. In some areas where rain has been heavier and the cotton is less mature, I have suggested cutting back some on irrigation so as not to promote more growth.

PECAN WEEVILS

Reports of weevil emergence have come in and some of the earlier trees are in the gel to dough stage so it has come time to treat for pecan weevils if you have had problems with them in the past.

Sevin 80S® at 2 lbs per 100 gallons of water gives good control. Two or three applications 10-14 days apart will be required.

APHIDS

Aphids are still scattered in mostly lower numbers, but I have seen a few more in squares and terminals. Watch for their increase especially in fields sprayed for worms. If you find an average of 50 aphids, leaf control may be needed.

OTHER BUGS

Cabbage loopers, cotton square borers and an occasional army worm can be found.

TRI-COUNTY CROP TOUR

The Tri-County Crop Tour is scheduled for September 7 beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the St. Lawrence Hall.

There will be more information on this event at a later date.

HEAT UNITS

Heat units averaged 13 per day the past week. Heat units

since 5-1, 5-15, 6-1 and 6-15 are compared with last year and a five year average in the table below.

DATE	5/1	5/15	6/1	6/15
2004	2011	1866.5	1540.5	1223.5
2003	2078	1823.5	1581.5	1344
5 YEAR AVERAGE	2152.4	1951.6	1662.2	1387.9

RAINFALL

Rainfall amounts for the months of January through July are included in the table below.

	St. Lawrence	Garden City	Midkiff
January	0.80	0.48	.78
February	0.55	1.15	.46
March	1.70	1.66	1.95
April	1.98	1.67	2.04
May	0.05	0.12	0.04
June	4.29	2.58	1.18
July	1.27	1.05	1.78

TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, Aug 24 9:00 Glasscock Coop
 Wednesday, Aug 25 9:00 Midkiff Coop - Cancelled due to conflict

Tuesday, Aug 31 9:00 Glasscock Coop
 Wednesday, Sept 1 9:00 Midkiff Coop

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	AVG SOIL TEMP
8/4	95	68	0	6	82
8/5	96	66	.09	4	81
8/6	98	70	0	6	82
8/7	91	68	0	6	82
8/8	89	67	0	6	82
8/9	90	67	0	4	82
8/10	93	63	0	2	81
8/11	86	64	0	6	81
8/12	86	61	.04	6	82
8/13	85	64	.05	5	81
8/14	84	60	.45	5	81
8/15	80	64	0	7	79
8/16	80	62	0	6	78
8/17	85	58	0	6	77
8/18	86	65	0	8	78

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