
Warren L. Multer, EA/IPM

PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

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

GENERAL SITUATION

Cotton ranges from 25% open bolls to still blooming. Hot, dry weather is helping cotton progress more rapidly. Some areas are showing stress during the heat of day, but recover overnight. Most cotton should have enough moisture to finish bolls. Bolls that have some chance to make a harvestable boll should be 2/3 grown at this time.

WORMS

We are still seeing egg-lay and some small-medium bollworms and fall armyworms in area cotton. Many fields are far enough along that worms will have a tough time getting established and damaging bolls that have time to make harvest.

The later fields, that still have considerable young fruit for worms to get established and then move to the bigger bolls, may be vulnerable for a short time. With the high cost of control, lack of consistent control, and time of season, control decisions are very difficult.

BEET ARMYWORMS

Moths have laid egg masses in several area fields in fairly high numbers. Small worms can be found in these hits feeding on surrounding leaves and moving to square boll bracts.

Once again, some fields are far enough along that beetles may not cause a problem but those late fields with considerable young fruit in the top may allow worms to get established and move to bigger bolls. Fields that have been recently sprayed with pyrethroid or Malathion seem to be the most likely fields to be infested.

The Early Detection Threshold is if two active hits

(recently hatched egg mass with actively feeding larvae) are found per 100 row feet and conditions are optimal for beet armyworm outbreaks. Whole plant scouting is suggested to determine number per acre. This threshold is 20,000 worms per acre and at least 10% of plants are infested.

From talking with people who have experienced late season beet armyworms in previous years, you may want to wait until you see worms moving down to feed in harvestable bolls before you treat for them.

APHIDS

Aphids remain in variable numbers across the area. They have crashed in some fields and are building in others. As the cotton plants toughen up, they are less likely to really build rapidly, but if they already exist, they can linger as cotton opens. Sticky cotton will be the biggest threat as more cotton opens.

FALL ARMYWORM CONTROL

Control has been far from good in general. I have seen Intrepid®, Intrepid®+ Pyrethroid and Steward®+Pyrethroid that has given less than adequate control in some fields and fair to good control in others. The size of worms seems to make a big difference. Coverage has been good in most fields with 5 gallons/acre used by air and 10 gallons by ground application.

FALL ARMYWORMS

Fall armyworms are damaging some area small grains. If you have emerging grain, you need to be scouting closely for damage.

PINK BOLLWORMS

Pink bollworm traps ranged from 1 to 3 moths per trap last

week. These numbers have been lower for 3 weeks now. You should check late maturing non-Bt cotton for pinky infestations in bolls. If 10-15% of bolls are infested, treatment should be considered.

QUICKBOOKS PRO FOR AG PRODUCERS

Enclosed is a brochure with information on a QuickBooks Pro workshop to be held in Midland on October 27-28.

BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION

Below is some information on the Boll weevil Eradication program through the week of September 9th.

	North Glasscock	Midkiff	Central St Lawrence	Reagan County
	201	202	203	204
Weevil Captures Per Trap This Week	.0757	.0142	.0279	.0302
Weevil Captures Per Trap This Year	.4555	.0065	.1598	.0466
Treatments This Week (ac.)	5,691	894	1,582	1,599
Treatments This Year (ac.)	59,045	3,627	21,316	22,366

The trigger for weevil spraying this week was 2 weevils trigger 40 acres (1 triggers 20 acres). This trigger will continue through next week. On September, 26, the trigger will change to 1 weevil triggers the entire field. By that time, we should be safe from most other pest problems and we need to become more aggressive on weevil control.

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.
The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

HEAT UNITS NEEDED FOR COTTON DEVELOPMENT

Planting To:	
Stand Establishment	78
Squaring	526
First Bloom	1064
First Open Boll	1641
95% Mature Bolls	2271

HEAT UNITS

Heat units averaged 14 per day the past week. Heat units since 5-5, 5-15, 5-25, 6-5 compared with last year and a four year average in the table below.

DATE	5/5	5/15	5/25	6/5
2005	2267	2146	1989	1840
2004	2372	2234	2048	1829
4 YEAR AVG	2440	2293	2136	1953

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
9/1	88	65	0	3	83
9/2	87	62	0	3	82
9/3	83	62	0	2	82
9/4	86	65	0	3	82
9/5	86	65	0	3	83
9/6	88	62	0	4	82
9/7	84	59	0	3	82
9/8	84	55	0	1	81
9/9	87	58	0	4	81
9/10	88	63	0	5	81
9/11	88	66	0	6	82
9/12	87	69	0	6	82
9/13	93	67	0	5	83
9/14	93	67	0	6	83