

Warren L. Multer, EA/IPM

PEST MANAGEMENT REPORT

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

GENERAL SITUATION

Hot, dry weather has pushed cotton along over the past couple of weeks. A few fields are being treated with defoliant & boll openers at this time. Beet armyworms, cabbage loopers, bollworms and fall armyworms are still present in some fields, but the maturity of crop and time of season has made them less important. Aphids are still present in a few fields, but are generally low.

WORMS

Various numbers and sizes of bollworms, fall armyworms, beet armyworms and loopers can be found in some fields. Bolls that we plan to harvest should be safe from further worm damage. Some leaf feeders should not hurt cotton any more either. This has definitely been a worm year to talk about. The Bollgard II cotton held up very well against these pests. The Bollgard I cotton in some fields had considerable damage from the fall armyworm infestation we saw late season, but still looks considerably better than the conventional.

APHIDS

We are still seeing some varied aphid populations in area fields. The threshold for aphids with open cotton is 10-15 aphids per leaf average. Cotton with only an open boll or two can stand higher numbers because it will be a while until harvest and a rain shower is more likely to wash the honeydew off. A field that is closer to harvest needs to be kept free from honeydew contamination.

PINK BOLLWORMS

Traps ranged from 1-10 moths per night over the past week.

PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING & TESTING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2005
8:30 - NOON
GLASSCOCK COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER
GARDEN CITY, TX

We will have the training first and testing immediately following.

HARVEST AID

Cotton is nearing maturity in some fields. Several methods can be used to determine when it is ready for treatment. I prefer looking at nodes above cracked boll and by cutting bolls and checking seed maturity. When nodes above cracked boll reaches 4, these bolls should all be mature. When cutting uppermost green bolls, if cotyledon leaves are formed in the seed and seed coat is darkening, these bolls should be mature enough for treatment.

Treatments in the area with Def + Prep, Gramoxone at a low rate (2-3 oz) by itself or with Prep have given good defoliation and boll opening so far. The change in weather conditions can change the effectiveness of these treatments.

Enclosed are suggested treatments for cotton in various conditions from the *2005 High Plains Cotton Harvest Aid Decision Table*. E-mail recipients can find the article at <http://lubbock.tamu.edu> under Cotton entitled 2005 Harvest Aid Guide on pages 10-11.

HOWARD COUNTY CROP TOUR

A defoliation plot will be looked at on the Howard County Crop Tour on October 4th. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the USDA research station on I-20 east of the Truck Stop.

HARVEST AID PLOT RESULTS

Billy Warrick will have results of several harvest aid plots with pictures on the San Angelo Research & Extension Website in the next couple of days. You can find these results at <http://sanangelo.tamu.edu/agronomy/pub.htm>.

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	.0820	.0064	.0646	.0565
Weevil Captures Per Trap This Year	.4125	.0071	.1495	.0487
Treatments This Week (ac.)	8,190	1,468	5,362	2,498
Treatments This Year (ac.)	81,224	6,649	33,575	29,966

On September, 26, the trigger changed to 1 weevil triggers the entire field. This week acres treated will increase substantially. This is a result of the new trigger level and maturing cotton fields, causing weevils to move.

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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 16 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	2506	2385	2228	2079
2004	2552	2414	2227	2008
4 YEAR AVG	2626	2479	2322	2139

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
9/15	91	71	0	4	84
9/16	84	69	0	5	84
9/17	96	67	0	7	83
9/18	95	63	0	5	83
9/19	91	65	0	5	83
9/20	89	61	0	4	83
9/21	90	58	0	3	82
9/22	96	56	0	2	82
9/23	91	56	0	1	82
9/24	91	55	0	1	82
9/25	101	56	0	3	82
9/26	94	58	0	5	82
9/27	94	60	0	3	82
9/28	99	60	0	6	82

