

TEXAS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Partners with Nature

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

News about Integrated Pest Management in Hockley and Cochran Counties
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GENERAL SITUATION

Pests in Cotton

Thrips in cotton have been highly variable. Be very careful to watch those fields which are struggling. We continue to find populations of grasshoppers. Scattered beet armyworms were noted this week, again. Light numbers of beneficial insects are present at this time. An occasional aphid has been seen. Fleahoppers and plant bugs can be seen on weeds in the field and field margins. Many cotton fields have begun squaring. Be sure to wrap up your Glyphosate applications before the 5th true leaf develops. Many weed species are or have been germinating; catch them while they are small.

Pests in Peanuts

Peanuts are doing relatively well. In peanuts I have seen an occasional cucumber beetle or southern corn rootworm adult in area fields this week. Nothing alarming, but just a reminder that you must spend some time looking at the root system and through the soil for signs of the larva. We are generally not at a great risk of the southern corn rootworm because of soil drainage, soil texture, history of damage, planting date and varieties. This is an important time to get a feel for how well your peanuts have nodulated. Also, weed control is better done now than when options become fewer and more expensive. Some herbicides to consider now are: Cadre, Pursuit, Blazer, Basagran, Storm (Blazer+Basagran), 2,4-DB, or paraquat. Many differences in weeds controlled, rotation restrictions, off target concerns, etc. exist in these products. Always read and follow label directions.

We have been checking for nodule development. In general nodulation is now being seen on some fields. These nodules will appear as knots on the roots. When first developed, they will appear white inside. As they further develop they should be pink inside; this is a good sign that these nodules are fixing nitrogen. A good number of these can form in each plant as they are legumes and can fix their own nitrogen. If these nodules are not present after six or so weeks since emergence then something has probably gone wrong during the inoculation process. This then lets you know that you will be spending money on

meeting its nitrogen requirements. Let me know if you need help in determining this or get with your fieldman.

Fertilizing Drip Irrigated Cotton

For those producers with drip irrigated cotton I have enclosed a handout on managing fertilizer by Dr. Kevin Bronson. If you are receiving this by e-mail or internet click on the following:

<http://lubbock.tamu.edu/soilfertility/pdfs/dripirrigatecot.pdf>

Peanut Pointers by Dr. Todd Baughman

Peanuts bloom approximately 30 days after emergence and reach peak bloom at 60 to 70 days after emergence. During early growth water demand is low. Water demand is high during the reproductive period of flowering, pegging and pod development and decreases as pods mature. High temperatures, moisture stress and low humidity can severely impact flower response in both the number of flowers and pollination.

There is no doubt that we will experience periods of high temperatures, moisture stress and, in many areas, low humidity. We can combat these issues to some degree with timely and adequate irrigation. Peanuts require between 1.5 and 2.0 inches of water per week during peak bloom and pod set. Keeping the pegging zone moist during this period aids in peg development and calcium uptake. The Southwest's short season makes it critical to set as many early pods as possible. Late season pods often do not have enough time to develop into mature pods. As with all inputs, timeliness is as critical as the input and amount of the input that we apply.

COTTON FLEAHOPPER MONITORING AND CONTROL STRATEGIES

Though we are not seeing problems yet, fleahoppers will be the next insect pest which we will likely have to deal with in cotton

Scouting for this pest can be difficult. The adults will fly readily when disturbed so care must be taken when approaching the plants. Do not cast a shadow on the plant and gently handle the plant while inspecting for this pest. The immatures are fairly easy to spot in the terminal if you have excellent to good eyesight. The adults are about 1/8" in length and are pale green in color and the immatures resemble the adults but are minute and somewhat clear until they begin to feed.

During the first week of squaring, the economic threshold is 25 to 30 cotton fleahoppers per 100 terminals combined with less than 90 percent square set. In the second week of squaring, the economic threshold is 25 to 30 cotton fleahoppers per 100 terminals combined with less than 85 percent square set. Starting with the third week of squaring up to first bloom, the economic

threshold is 25 to 30 cotton fleahoppers per 100 terminals combined with less than 75 percent square set.

Suggested Insecticides for control of cotton fleahoppers and Lygus.

Formulated amount per acre

Insecticide	Fleahopper	Lygus
Address® 75S 4	5.33 oz.	10.66 - 21.33 oz
Address® 90S 3.34	4 oz	9 - 17.77
Orthene® 90S 3.34	4 oz	9 - 17.77
Orthene® 97 3.10	3.71 oz	8 - 16 oz
Capture® 2E ----	2.6 - 6.4 oz	
Baythroid® 2E ----	1.6 - 2.6 oz	
Leverage® 2.7SE ----	3.75 oz	
Karate® 1E ----	2.56 - 3.84 oz	
Karate® 2.08 CS ----	1.28 - 1.92 oz	
Ammo® 2.5 E ----	2 - 5 oz	
Decis® 1.5 E ----	1.11 - 1.62 oz	
Sevin® 80S 0.6	1.25 lbs ----	
Lorsban® 4E 6	16 oz ----	
Bidrin® 8E 0.8	3.2 oz	8 oz
Dimate® 4E 4	8 oz	8 oz
Dimethoate® 2.67E 5.3	10.5 oz	10.7 oz
Dimethoate® 4E 4	8 oz	8 oz
Dimethoate® 5E 3.2	6.4 oz	6.4 oz
Asana XL® 0.66E ----	5.8 - 9.6 oz	
Provado® 1.6F 3.75	oz	3.75 oz
Steward® 1.25SC 9.2	11.3 oz ----	
Lannate® 2.4LV 6	12 oz	0.75 pt
Methyl Parathion 4E 3.2	oz	1 - 2 pts
Vydate® 2L 1	pt	1 pt
Vydate® 3.77 C-LV 8.5	oz	12.7 - 34.0oz
Metasystox - R® 2E 1	pt ----	
Parathion 8E ----	8 - 16 oz	
Scout®X-tra 0.9E ----	2.28 - 2.84 oz	
Fury® 1.5 E ----	2.99 - 4.26 oz	

The use of synthetic pyrethroid insecticides may increase cotton aphid numbers

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