

AgriLIFE EXTENSION

Texas A&M System

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

News about
Integrated Pest
Management in
Hockley and
Cochran Counties
from Kerry Siders.



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Partners with Nature

Current Crop and Pest Situation

Since the last newsletter cotton insect pests have remained fairly quiet. Many fields are reaching that point of maturity when many insect pests cannot cause economic damage. So this being said, I would say that most cotton needs to be watched for another 10 days. The insect to be mindful of through open cotton is cotton aphids and cotton bollworms on conventional non-Bt or Widestrike cotton varieties. I have been finding cotton aphids in area fields as well as bollworm moth flights have been fairly heavy over the last 10 days. Late cotton which still has 4 or more nodes above white flower will need to be monitored through the first week of September.

The rain last night for most in Hockley and Cochran counties will help some in irrigation management and possibly irrigation termination over the next couple of weeks. If you have questions give me a call.

Weed pressure may increase over the next few weeks as we finish out the season and receive some late rains. I would continue to pay particular attention to Palmer amaranth or pigweed which may be resistant to glyphosate. Do your best in limiting these pigweed from going to seed and adding more resistant plants to the seedbank. It will be imperative that you make note of pigweed resistant fields now and plan accordingly to tackle this problem in 2013 with a good base herbicide program of a yellow preplant incorporated herbicide.

Peanuts are generally doing well under these current conditions, but will need time to finish out what could be a very good crop. Risk factors for disease have increased with threat of rain and higher humidity, plus heavy irrigation. Foliage feeders have increased this week, with some fields near Whiteface exceeding threshold. Irrigation will need to continue for awhile unless good rains are received.

Grain Sorghum has been making good progress under irrigation. Headworms (a.k.a. corn earworm, cotton bollworm) and various armyworms have continued this past week. Watch for midge on later planted milo.

My Priority List for the Remaining Portion of August

- 1. Have a plan on irrigating over the next few weeks. Begin tapering it off, with the exception of drip which will go into September.**
- 2. Make notes of which fields you notice cotton wilt symptoms, so that you might consider this in your selection of cotton varieties.**
- 3. You can begin taking soil samples for cotton root-knot nematodes now. Much easier while we have soil moisture to sample in.**
- 4. Locate spots of perennial weeds to treat this fall. Best time to achieve good root kill.**
- 5. Watch late aphid populations in cotton.**

West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute Annual Conference

The annual meeting of the West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute has been scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 6, at the Scottish Rite Temple - Learning Center, located at 1101 70th Street in Lubbock, (South Loop 289 and Interstate 27).

This year represents the 60th meeting of WTACI, an unincorporated organization of dealers, industry representatives, agricultural producers, scientists, educators, and agribusiness members who support education and research programs promoting safe and effective use of agricultural chemicals and protection and preservation of the area's natural resources.

Topics to be discussed at the conference include various aspects of pest identification and management, pesticide application and disposal, research efforts on row crops in the High Plains, and much more. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has approved a total of 6.5 continuing education units (CEU's) in the areas of IPM (1.0), Pesticide Laws and Regs (1.0), Drift Minimization (1.0) and General (3.5). In addition, the WTACI program has been approved for 4.0, 2.0 and 0.5 hours of Pest Management, Crop Management and Professional Development, respectively. A detailed list of presentations and speakers is available at <http://wtaci.tamu.edu/>. Click on the "Conference Program" button.

Pre-registration currently is available online at <http://wtaci.tamu.edu/online/registration.php>. Registration forms have been mailed. On-line registration fees are \$75 for conference attendees and \$300 for a booth and must be completed or postmarked by August 31. On-site registration will begin at 7:00 the day of the conference and will cost \$95 for attendees and \$325 for booth sponsors. Lunch will be provided as part of the registration fee.

Contact Jason Woodward at 806-632-0762 or jewoodward@ag.tamu.edu for questions about the program and CEU's. If you have trouble or questions regarding registration contact David Pointer, 806-746-4021 or dlpointer@ag.tamu.edu.

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