

AgriLIFE EXTENSION

Texas A&M System

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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



June 22, 2012
Vol. 17 - No. 4



Partners with Nature

GENERAL SITUATION

Generally most crop acres have made good progress this past week. Though the wind and sand did cause some set-back for a few earlier in the week. Most cotton acres are now squaring, with an average 1st square found at node 7 (see square just above my thumb in picture to right). We are averaging about 9.5 total nodes. Obviously the cotton which is protected in some degree of residue like old cotton stalks to wheat stubble have made the most progress. In fact, in some of those protected situations (as in the



stalk and terminated wheat to left; pay no attention to the antelope) a plant growth regulator may need to be considered where top three node lengths average out to more than 1.25" per node.

No insect pests of any concern were noted this week. Only weed pests have been of primary concern. I have received increasing phone

traffic on glyphosate resistant pigweed (*A. Palmeri*). I cannot overemphasize the importance of removing these escapes before they produce seed and also the use of a residual pre-emerge herbicide. Please call if you have questions.

Priorities this coming week: check moisture, may need to begin irrigation if haven't already; and implement your fertility plan.



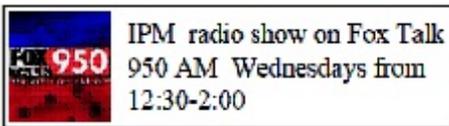


Peanuts are growing well under the current conditions. Most fields I have checked have good nodulation. Not great, but good. Those fields will most likely need the addition of nitrogen fertilizer. Bloom set has been very good. Other than weeds no pest problems.

Restricted Use Pesticides

First, I would like to make something very clear. We in Extension are educators not regulators or enforcers of any laws. Yes, we help interpret the law as best we can to educate producers and others about the laws which affect us in our agricultural industry. I especially try to help when it comes to laws which govern the use of pesticides. That brings me to my specific point - Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs). The use of any RUPs requires that a person be a certified or licensed pesticide applicator. No exceptions. Each crop protection chemical will clearly state if it is or is not a RUP. If it is you must have a license to even purchase. That is the law. An example which has come up recently is Milo-Pro herbicide. Now I had not thought about Milo-Pro all that much lately and so had not reviewed the label closely. But it is a RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE, and that is clearly stated on the label. Therefore, you must have a license to buy. I suspect this whole pigweed resistance issue has some folks scrambling for solutions. I understand that. We should consider all legal means including pre-emerge herbicides. So just like Dual or Staple, or lay-by with Caparol, Direx, or Cotoran used in cotton; Milo-Pro would be great in grain sorghum. Always read and follow label directions. It is the law.

SEE YOU ON THE RADIO



WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE is a publication of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service IPM Program in Hockley and Cochran Counties.

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