

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

News about
Integrated Pest
Management in
Hockley,
Cochran, and
Lamb Counties
from
Kerry Sidors

August 23,
2019

Vol. 24 – No. 13

Current Situation

For some, August has brought some rain showers which have helped. While others have received nary a drop. So, this patchwork of wet and dry has made it difficult to say with certainty “this is what I would recommend”, especially on irrigation. Fortunately, the heat has continued to drive the cotton to an end. Many fields are balled to the top and have accumulated enough heat units (400) since 5 nodes above white flower (~August 5th) to make cotton safe from most insect pests this coming week (August 26-31). However, and there is always a “however”, cotton aphids continue to be found in most area fields with some continuing to build in numbers, while others are declining rapidly. Most of these colonies have good beneficial insect activity. Keep close watch on these aphids. Check leaves from various parts of the field. Look at 50 leaves, first fully expanded leaf near top of plant, and 50 leaves near the middle of the plant. Average all the aphids you find. At this point we are still using 40-70 aphids per leaf as the threshold. Once we have open cotton then that threshold is lowered to near 10 per leaf. Also, continue to watch for bollworms on cotton which still has more than 3 nodes above white flower. Stink bugs are still with us. I have started seeing both green and Conchuela stink bugs.

Cotton Insect Guide: https://lubbock.tamu.edu/files/2019/08/2019-Cotton-Insect-Control-Suggestions_ENTO090.pdf

On irrigation, we are still looking at some high temperature days next week. I would encourage you to stay with the water for another week, and then start pinching it back.

In peanuts we continue to closely monitor foliage diseases and pod health. Fields are still healthy and making good progress in pod fill. Try to keep peanuts freshened up on a regular basis. By next week a 1” irrigation on a weekly basis should be sufficient to prevent severe wilt to maintain vine health till harvest.

Corn and grain sorghum are all over the board in terms of development and maturity. Ensilage is being cut up in Lamb County now for near a week. Heat has been tough on pollinating corn. Mites continue to build in some corn acres, and sugarcane aphids should be monitored in sorghum. Some extreme numbers of corn leaf aphids have been reported in corn.

Call if you have questions. Kerry

West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute Annual Conference Set for September 11

***Pre-Registration Deadline is August 31

The West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute will host their annual conference on Wednesday, Sept. 11, at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture, located at 1121 Canyon Lake Drive in Lubbock.

This year represents the 67th 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 ag and regulatory policy, pest management, crop protection research, the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol, crop management challenges, and weed management issues. A detailed list of presentations and speakers soon will be available at https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_wtaci.tamu.edu&d=DwIFaQ&c=r_tSStlHV2ie60z4DgB-pQ&r=hnZ8pslTSOXBnb2-osqm1QRYx9dzFLQJJJh6gySrwA&m=3DEp427Ay3RzW_-z4lgPBOUTZBzEndUGIIHPTit1I84&s=IBaeeX6ZRyrC8xCEHZpv9zLzZ3Gj3QT9JPE3U2Co610&e= .

A total of 5.5 Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) CEUs are pending currently.

Pre-registration is available online at https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_wtaci.tamu.edu_Registration.html&d=DwIFaQ&c=r_tSStlHV2ie60z4DgB-pQ&r=hnZ8pslTSOXBnb2-osqm1QRYx9dzFLQJJJh6gySrwA&m=3DEp427Ay3RzW_-z4lgPBOUTZBzEndUGIIHPTit1I84&s=kei2oUp46-WaT4ovcQZB1rFQPv4yJsKr3uEJqXBzGMM&e= . On-line registration fees are \$75 for conference attendees and must be completed or postmarked by August 31. Booth fees start at \$300. On-site registration will begin at 7 a.m. 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.

Opportunities also exist to contribute to the WTACI Scholarship Fund, which has provided more than \$60,000 in scholarships to students majoring in agricultural fields at many Texas universities.

Contact Katie Lewis at (806) 746-6101 or katie.lewis@ag.tamu.edu for questions about the program and CEU's. If you have trouble or questions regarding registration contact David Pointer, 806-746-6101 or dlpointer@ag.tamu.edu.

West Plains IPM Update is a publication of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service IPM Program in Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Counties.

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