

WEST
PLAINS
IPM
UPDATE

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

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Crop and Pest Situation

Cotton ranges from dryland still waiting on a good rain shower to get a stand to 6 leaf cotton plants. Many area fields it is difficult to count number of leaves since the blow on Tuesday. It has been awhile since we have had a good general rain and it is now critical that we receive one in the next 10 days. The only bright spot, besides how peanuts look, is the fact that we are not experiencing much in the way of thrips pressure. As of scouting today I feel we still must scout for thrips as the health of most of our cotton acres is compromised from wind damage. Any additional stress and feeding to terminals would be a death nail.

We must keep looking forward and concentrate on managing weeds, southern root-knot nematodes, and fertility issues. Plan on cotton with healthy terminals healing up and getting back on track here in the next week to ten days. If you have a history of root-knot nematodes let us get out an application of 17 oz of Vydate or Return soon. We need to get started on with our fertility plan. We do not want to wait and delay the benefits of proper nutrients, and push maturity later than what we have season for.

Peanuts are doing well. I am not seeing blooms yet but anticipate seeing those at the end of next week in some fields. Start evaluating inoculation by checking for nodules. Try keeping fields as clean as possible here early as options are much more affordable now than later.



Please Consider This:

- ~ Sprayer calibration will ensure proper rate of crop protection chemicals, good coverage, management/control of the pest, and efficient use of input cost.
- ~ Remember the goal of protecting crops from pests (weeds, insects & disease) is to limit yield loss, not to increase yields.
- ~ The use of Bollgard or Widestrike does not excuse you from checking your crop for worms on a weekly basis.
- ~ The advice of a professional consultant on a weekly basis is even that much more important in times of economic concern and maximizing necessary production inputs.

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