

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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



Sept. 8, 2023

Vol. 28 – No. 15

Current Crop and Pest Situation

Most everyone is looking forward to what the forecast is calling for – more moderate temperatures and some rainfall. It is never too late for rain, though some crops may not benefit for this year. This potential rain could help finish out some cotton, peanuts, corn, milo, sunflowers, peas, and help generate some pasture grass before winter. It has been best for the crop to continue watering through this heat, but hopefully any rains will help make the decision to shut it off easier come Monday.

The **cotton** crop is safe from most all insect pests, other than cotton aphids and stinkbugs which can linger some years till the bitter end. I am not seeing aphids much this week and stinkbugs have been far and few between as well. I mentioned this a few weeks ago, especially if we get a rain next week, this is a good time to sample the soil for cotton root-knot nematode infestation. This will help determine level of management you will need to use next year. Cotton harvest is approaching. Here is the link to the 2022 Cotton Harvest Aid Guide:

<https://lubbock.tamu.edu/files/2022/08/2022-Texas-High-Plains-Cotton-Harvest-Aid-Guide-2.pdf>

As I discussed back mid-summer about wheat residue or other small grain plants used as cover can be too heavy and cause excessive moisture loss. So, if you plan on having a wheat or small grain cover for next year, great idea, but do not plant too heavily. It has been shown by Dr. Ray White, Post-Doc AgriLife Research, Lubbock, that 30 pounds of wheat seed is more than sufficient to provide cover to protect young developing cotton. However, exceeding this rate can cause moisture loss from wicking out precious moisture during the growing season when left intact. The other point on this story is terminating this cover at least 14 days prior to planting cotton.





The Agricultural Committee of the Levelland Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to join us for the Annual Shrimp Boil as a “Thank You” to our Ag Producers in Hockley County.

Wednesday, September 13, 11:30 – 1:00 PM

Mallet Event Center, Levelland

Guest Speaker is Dr. Bart Fischer, Co-Director of the Agricultural & Food Policy Center at Texas A&M University

September 21, 2023
**COCHRAN COUNTY
FARM FAIR**
COUNTY SHOW BARN
1883 FM 1780 MORTON TX 79346



**BOOTH REGISTRATION
9:00 A.M.**

**BOOTH RESERVATIONS
CONTACT: SHAY BUTLER
806-266-5215**

**FREE LUNCH PROVIDED BY
RIVER SMITH'S 11:30 -1:00**

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This work is supported in part by the Crop Protection and Pest Management, Extension Implementation Program [award no. 2021- 70006-35347/project accession no. 1027036] from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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

Editor: Kerry Siders, Extension Agent-IPM
Contact information:
1212 Houston St., Suite 2 Levelland, TX 79336
(806) 894-3150 (office),
638-5635 (mobile)
ksiders@tamu.edu (E-mail)



Partners with Nature

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is implied.

The Texas A&M System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating