

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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

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CROP AND INSECT SITUATION

Cotton has been making good progress in maturing bolls the past few weeks with the warm dry weather. Although some fields have stressed more than they probably should have, it has hastened maturity on some fields where previously late vegetative growth was a concern. Unfortunately we have had some scattered hail events this last weekend which has caused some damage. Cotton aphids can still be found in many area fields. As we have more open cotton, be sure to scout aphids and treat if necessary. As mentioned in previous issues this time of year is good time to sample for cotton root-knot nematodes, especially after a rain event to soften up the soil. I have not found a good candidate field to place a harvest aid trial at yet. I suspect some harvest aids may start going out on some dryland which got a bit hot and has popped many bolls here of late. If you think you have an area of pretty good cotton which might be a good visible site for a trial, give me a call. If you missed it in the last issue here is the 2017 Cotton Harvest Aid Guide: <http://lubbock.tamu.edu/files/2017/08/2017-High-Plains-Cotton-Harvest-Aid-Guide.pdf>

The sugarcane aphid continues to infest **grain sorghum** and require aphicide applications. Transform and Sivanto are both doing an excellent job when applied properly. Beneficial insect activity has increased in most fields and are helping hold sugarcane aphid in check behind initial treatment. However, I am not seeing beneficial insects capable of reducing sugarcane aphids on their own initially without a major reduction from an aphicide treatment. Headworms, midge and stinkbugs are also present in area grain sorghum and should be scouted for.

Peanuts are still holding up fairly well. With the warm weather this week continue to water as needed to maintain vine strength. I would suggest start scrapping hulls to check for maturity. I would estimate we are at earliest 10 days away from digging some. Here is a good video of pressure washing and laying pods out on profile board checking maturity: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hq2JuGrqZH0>

Private Pesticide Applicators Training 2017 Cochran, Hockley and Lamb Counties

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer the required private Pesticide Applicators Training (PAT) in Morton, Levelland and Littlefield throughout 2017. This training is required by Texas Department of Agriculture before taking the exam for obtaining the license. A private pesticide applicator is a person who uses or supervises the use of a restricted-use or state limited-use pesticide or a regulated herbicide for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity. This license is not for those receiving monetary compensation for a pesticide application.

To participate in a training individuals must call 806-894-3159 by 3pm the day prior (Wednesday) to the trainings in Levelland; or 806-266-5215 by 3pm the day prior to any trainings in Morton. The trainings will begin promptly at 1pm at the Extension Offices (see addresses below). There is a \$60 fee for training materials. This is only the required training. Testing will be conducted at a separate time and location. Future PAT Trainings:

- October 19 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- November 6 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for any educational meetings. Please contact us to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service that you will require a week in advance of training.

See You On The Radio



Wednesdays from 7:30 am to 7:45 am.

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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