



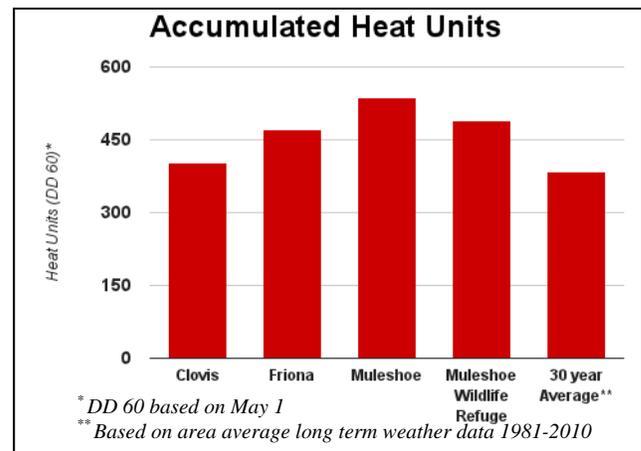
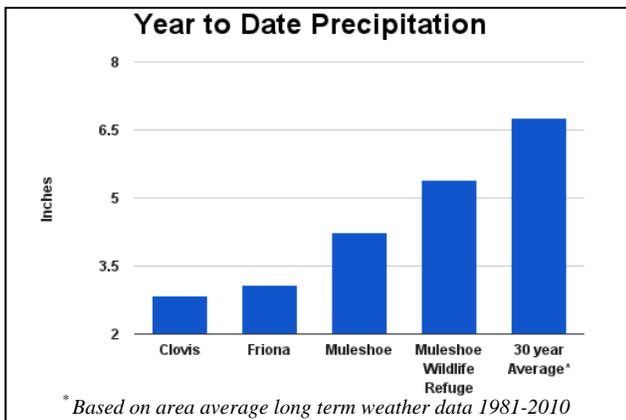
Northwest Plains Pest Management News

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Recent precipitation has certainly been welcomed even though some crops and property have been damaged. Rainfall amounts have varied greatly, individual amounts ranging from a trace to 2+ inches have been reported. NOAA weather stations have recorded 1.19 Clovis, 1.61 Friona, 2.38 Muleshoe, and 3.94 Muleshoe NWR in June. Even with recent precipitation the area continues to be well behind the long term average; currently, comparing the area wide year to date average to the area long term average we are right at 57% of the historical average (see the precipitation figure for more detail).



Dryland cotton actually received enough precipitation to emerge in some fields but many are already running out of moisture since we had no sub-soil moisture to base recent precipitation on. In addition, blowing sand has continued to plague area producers. Fields with poor soil tith as a result of 2+ years of exceptional drought have been particularly difficult to “tie down”.

Weeds have really “taken off” after recent precipitation and should be managed aggressively, we do not need to allow them to use precious moisture. Remember many herbicides have crop stage limitations, read labels carefully to avoid risk of crop injury. The key to a successful and sustainable weed management is the use of a multi-tactic approach. When considering herbicide applications try not to rely on a single mode of action. Using herbicides with different modes of action and/or tillage will reduce risks of resistance development. Another consideration when making herbicide applications is off target injury, whether it be drift or spray tank contamination. The following is a quick list of

Potential Daily Water Use*	
Crop	Inches per day
Corn	.20-.33
Cotton	.13-.17
Sorghum	.11-.20

*Daily estimated crop water demands (inches of water per day) based on PET data from Halfway.



IPM radio show on Fox
Talk 950 AM Wednesdays
from 12:30-2:00



<http://nwpipm.blogspot.com/>



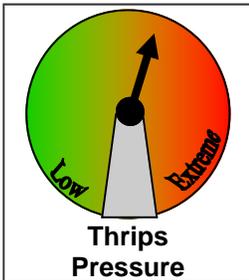
<http://goo.gl/fFH40>



<https://twitter.com/NWPIMP>

drift related topics to consider: environmental conditions (wind speed, direction, temperature, inversion conditions, etc), herbicide volatility, spray volume and droplet size, ground speed and spray pressure. Sprayer cleanup is critical especially when a spray rig is used with various herbicides and on different crops. A good article published by the University of Missouri on sprayer cleanup can be found at <http://goo.gl/ASg0V>

Thrips persist in area cotton at low to high levels

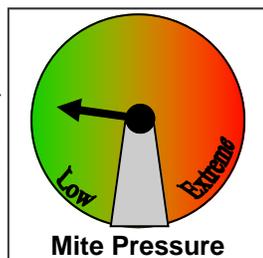


depending on previous management tactics. Seed treatments have held up pretty well but have begun to lose effectiveness in many fields and may not protect cotton through the key 5th true leaf stage. The tell-tale sign that a seed treatment insecticide is wearing off is the

presence of immature thrips. Foliar applications of acephate have been effective but don't expect residual activity past 5-7 days. The accepted treatment threshold is 1 thrips/true leaf but if cotton is slow growing the threshold should be reduced to 1/2 thrips/true leaf.

Spider mite pressure overall has seemed to decline, probably a result of recent showers. Spider mites are very small, 1/32 inch or less, and are difficult to see without magnification unless colonies are well developed. Eggs are very small pearly white spheres. Mites will migrate into corn from wheat or native grasses with the aid of wind. They will lay eggs on the underside of corn leaves which will hatch in 3-4 days. Larvae/nymphs will mature and begin laying eggs in 5-10 days. There may be 7 to 10 overlapping generations per growing season. Hot dry conditions favor rapid development of mite populations particularly after tassel.

Banks grass mites typically infest lower leaves first then move up the plant while two spotted mites may infest any leaf at any time. Banks grass mite and two spotted mite infestations of similar densities will result in similar damage.



In fields with established mite colonies and a history of spider mite infestations a preventive miticide application should be considered. There are several foliar miticides which can be applied early season to reduce risks associated with spider mites. Remember current miticides are not systemic and will only protect the leaves which are sprayed and any subsequent growth will not be protected. Some of these pesticides are soft on beneficial organisms and may allow natural enemy populations to become established which will result in a more stable production system.

Fall armyworms (FAW) have been observed in non-Bt corn fields feeding in whorls. Preliminary data from a trial evaluating Double Pro and SmartStax Bt technologies suggest they are both very effective in suppressing foliage feeding FAW, more time to fully evaluate the trial will hopefully confirm early data. FAW moths deposit eggs on leaves. Newly hatched larvae begin to feed in the whorl. Larval feeding will cause the leaves to appear ragged, but insecticide treatments are seldom recommended. In extreme cases where treatment may be justified foliar applications of newer pesticides (Prevathon, Belt) have shown to provide suppression of whorl feeding FAW in a limited number of trials. Chemigation of a labeled insecticide active on FAW may be another management tactic to consider. As sorghum gets larger it will be very attractive to FAW; management options are limited since fewer insecticides are labeled for use in sorghum.



FAW feeding 4 days after hatch

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