



## HIGH PLAINS IPM Update

News about  
Integrated Pest  
Management in  
Bailey, Castro,  
and Parmer  
Counties, from  
John Thobe



Sept 4, 2020

Vol 1 – No. 12



### High Plains Crop Update

Things are cooling down all over as we swing in into September. Even corn silage acres are starting to slow, but not fully quit as we still need to be attentive for those trucks sharing our roads.

Let's start out with **corn**, if you have been following this newsletter you're aware of the spider mite numbers and occurrences we've had this year. As we look to clear out all our acres of corn silage take a peek and see the damage done. Did you catch them right on time? Did you spray at the sight of the first one and have your residual run out?



Here you can see what I'm talking about fairly well. We have a 0 damage on top leading to a 8.5 or maybe a 9 at the bottom. Very few fields got away from a producer like this. Over 95% of acres are sitting at that 1-1.5 damage rating for mites. As stated in previous newsletters it was the second wave of mites that many of you decided to pull the trigger on. The first and third waves were dealt with by existing predator populations.

Turning our attention now on to **sorghum**, we have had spider mite issues in it as well. Consultants have been in contact with me about a few fields here and there in Northern Parmer. We did not see them too heavy in heat stressed and low water input fields. Same story with the Sugarcane Aphid, it seems SCA is more attracted to that lush high water input circles.



So, everyone sees these SCA (sugarcane aphids) and the massive populations they can build in just a short time. The picture to the left taken by an extension entomologist out Lubbock. Taken at night you can really see that honeydew accumulate on the lower leaves. This blocks photosynthetic processes, slowing the process of new growth, as well as grain fill in the sorghum's head.

Photo By: Pat Porter



Like to remind everyone to listen to our weekly IPM update, covering ten counties right here in the panhandle. You'll find the information on the left side of the page. Also follow Bailey County's Texas A&M AgriLife Extension page if you're a Facebooker.

Moving to **cotton** now, in that IPM update Kerry mentioned the importance of irrigation to sustain the crop. We aren't putting anymore fruit on the plant, simply keeping what we have till finish line. You're not going to see the large bolls go first if you shed, its going to start slow, with candle producing bolls to go first.

Generally, its best to see about .3" a day or 2" a week depending on weather conditions. Lot of factors go into this, but this is generally speaking.

Got a 2020 Texas High Plains Cotton Harvest-Aid Guide put together by Murilo Maeda and Wayne Keeling cotton specialist and the systems agronomist out of Lubbock. Link to it can be found by clicking [Here](#).

As mentioned earlier if you believe you have a disease in any crop and would like me to come out to sample please feel free to contact me via E-mail or give me a call. Tests are run through Lubbock and are free of charge to the producer.

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Fusarium Wilt



Verticillium Wilt



Herbicide Damage

Can you do anything about verticillium and fusarium this year, yes and no. There is nothing you can do to reverse the damage done. You can however, identify what you're dealing with. You can mitigate the spread by properly cleaning off equipment. Then come up with a plan for variety selection in the coming year to work toward elimination below detectable levels. Again, know what you're dealing with, don't want to variety select around herbicide damage.

Had this on last week but here are the top **wheat** picks for this year as conducted by Dr. Jourdan Bell Extension Agronomist out of Amarillo. Link to follow.

[Click Here!](#)

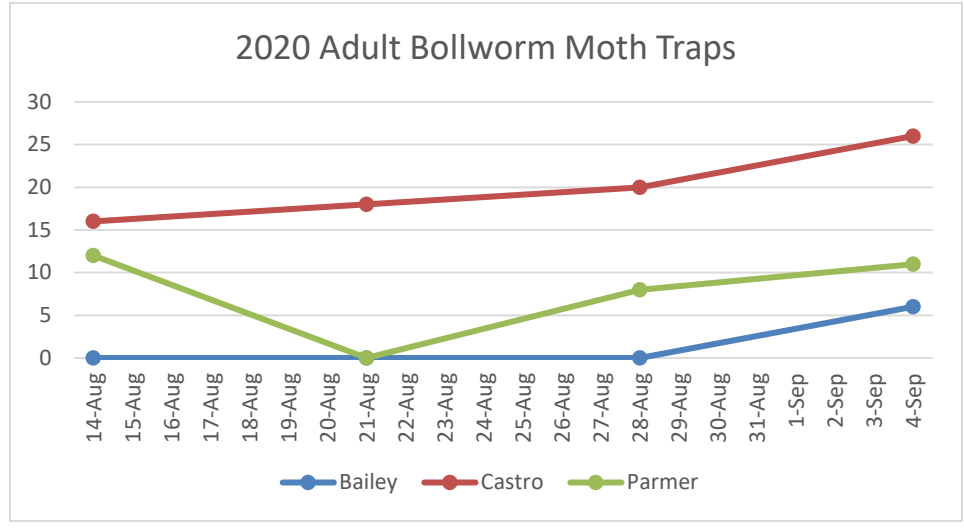


Saw just a small shot of **peanuts** this week in Eastern Bailey, caught some small foliar feeding activity being done on them. In speaking with (Kerry Siders EA-IPM Cochran, Lamb, Hockley) about some of the thresholds for foliar feeding in peanuts. We are looking at 6.5 worms of any size per row foot of crop as an action threshold. This reminds me a lot of the threshold in sorghum for whirl feeding, in that it seems to be a very high count before its worth it to go in and take care of the problem.

When looking into foliar feeding we are not actually going to be determining species, feeding is feeding. That being said I caught mainly bollworm or (corn earworm) a couple Fall Army worm, and a few cabbage loopers thrown in there. Biggest threat is going to be the falls due to their aggressive eating patterns but also corn earworm being canibalistic, causing fewer populations.



Figure 6. Inverted "Y" on head of a fall armyworm.



No increase in Bailey numbers, just wanted a trap to represent every county. So, as you can see we are holding steady, no increase in the area. Bollworms are mainly sticking to foliar feeding as mentioned before and don't pose as big of a threat as they did last week. Like many of the other pests this year they didn't get a whole lot of traction early, and their numbers were spotty to say the least.



Y'all have a great and safe labor day weekend.



**High Plains IPM Update** is a publication of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service IPM Program in Bailey, Castro, and Parmer Counties.

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