



Western  
HIGH  
PLAINS  
IPM  
Update

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



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IPM Podcast Click

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## Western High Plains Crop Update

Welcome to August, every insect is now in play as we look across all farm ground in Bailey, Castro, and Parmer counties.

**Corn** in the area ranges anywhere from V-7 in some very late planting situations all the way up to harvested for silage. Beginning this week we have seen the start of spidermite applications go out. Starting over in Portales NM miticide recommendations have been made on roughly 6% of acres as we begin to pick up populations and pockets of both banks and two spotted mites.



Two Spotted Mite (TSM)



Banks Grass Mite (BGM)

Remember the threshold on these is going to be **30% leaf coverage of 30% of the plant population**. Keep in mind that miticides take a bit of time to work, on average 7-10 days for full effect. Plan accordingly, understand that getting ahead of these guys can be beneficial, but pull the trigger to late and you can run into your residual running out before harvest (Grain or Silage).

If you believe you have caught the **RED mite** in any population give me a call, I would be more than happy to come out and take a look at it! This is a growing concern up North and will make its way here eventually.

IPM podcast link is to the left to sign up for it.  
For the direct link, this week click below.

[Here](#)

**I would like to invite everyone to check out their County's Facebook pages for updates on local events and actives!**

[Bailey](#)

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**Sorghum** continues to be a growing crop in these three counties and will take up much of our focus as we push into boot and grain fill. Headworm is going to be a problem this year as far as I can tell as the bollworm has been in cotton. SCA as pictured below is of course on our radar and has been found in Southern Bailey county, Edmondson, and Southern Parmer county Northeast of Progress. Infestation and populations can increase dramatically after first sighting. Threshold on these guys are going to be **50-125 per leaf per plant**. This seems pretty high to let this insect get to before application and much



like mites they vary in severity through-out the field.

A small portion of acres are going to go to grain but even if fields are going for silage midge can be a later season pest. Scouting techniques for this insect are a bit different. I like to use a method learned by Blayne Reed, in cutting the bottom of a milk jug out (patenet pending ) Grab a head and vigeriously shake. This is good for headworm checking as well. **Threshold is 1 per head!**

For control options in sorghum give me a call and we can discuss more on the topic!

Moving on to **Cotton** in the area. Got everything from first bloom believe it or not all the way to 6 NAWF. Cotton fleahoppers are for the most part in our rear view with some exceptions, in the underdeveloped fields. Bollworms are on the rise to say the least. Coverage ranges from Southern Bailey to Eastern Castro and no field is 100% free of either egg lay or feeding done by this late season pest. Remember that 6% damage and consider that egg lay as well.





Yellow Stripped "True" Armyworm feeding on candle boll

With that egg lay understand that if an application is warranted, I have seen anywhere from 0 to 90% of plants with a bollworm egg lay. In many situations in Southern Texas they make applications on 20% egg lay. This comes with higher pressures that they deal with on a yearly basis.

Applications for Bollworm based on egg lay is a bit tricky, stick with this **6% damage**, but understand that if you have upwards of 30% egg lay wait 2-3 days for hatch and reassess populations! If populations persist and they haven't moved on to "greener pastures" then plan to control them. **Be cautious when using a pyrethroid as this flairs aphids.** If you would like to call about checking a field, let me know!



Last thing I will bug ya with. Dr. Jourdan Bell's wheat picks for 2021 are out and will be attached to the Email but here is a short preview!



Wheat Variety "Picks", Texas High Plains. 2021-2022		
Full Irrigation <sup>†</sup>	Limited Irrigation	Dryland
TAM 113	TAM 113	TAM 113
TAM 114	TAM 114	TAM 114
TAM 115	TAM 115	TAM 115
TAM 205	TAM 205	TAM 205
----	Winterhawk	Winterhawk
WB4792	WB4792	WB4792
Wheat Variety "Watch" List, Texas High Plains. 2020-2021		
Canvas	Canvas	----
CP 7869 <sup>§</sup>	CP 7869 <sup>§</sup>	CP 7869 <sup>§</sup>
Winterhawk <sup>§</sup>	----	----
SY Wolverine	----	----

<sup>†</sup> Full irrigation in the Texas High Plains reflects a production system that also is oriented to ample nitrogen fertilizer applications and likely fungicide application(s) for leaf rust and stripe rust even when infection is minimal or even preventative applications before infestation.

<sup>§</sup> Varieties were evaluated for a minimum of three years and on the 2020-2021 Picks List. While the varieties are known to have stable performance, they were not evaluated in the AgriLife 2020-2021 High Plains variety trials or not evaluated under the specific water regime so they have been moved to the watch list.

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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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