



Western  
HIGH  
PLAINS  
IPM  
Update

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



September 9,  
2021

Vol 2 – No. 14

IPM Podcast Click

[Here](#)

## Western High Plains Crop Update

Hope everyone is enjoying September so far

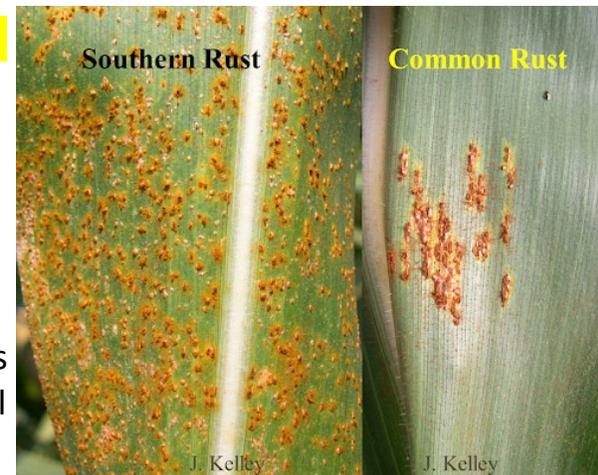
**Corn** hasn't changed much in pressure of spidermites, with about 75% of corn being sprayed this year as opposed to 98% last year. A sizeable portion of the acres in the tri-county area could get away with skipping an application. Stage in ranges from milk to chopped. Many acres experience the beneficial shredder that is our predators we have in our fields. Predators as a whole really stepped up their numbers this year including syrphid fly larvae, six spotted thrips, lacewing larvae, and of course lady beetles. As always keep that **30% coverage of 30% of leaves** in the back of your mind when you find pockets of mites in the field. If you walk into heavy infestation be sure to check the other side of the field as everything this year is spotty. **If you see a population of RED MITE please call me!!**

Southern rust has been a question in corn as we catch more and more moisture going through August. The threshold is **25-30% of foliar coverage** before it becomes a concern.

**Know if you have it and make a plan to take care of the problem.**

Much like the threshold on other things, its best to know the situation and get ahead of it a bit rather than wait to long.

If you have any questions or concerns as always give me a shout or an email back and I would be happy to come take a look at the field in question!



<https://inthefurrow.com/2020/09/25/southern-rust-corn/>

**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](#)

[Castro](#)

[Parmer](#)



**Sorghum** acres still in the crosshairs of the SCA, I can say with confidence that every field now has them in some population or another. Beneficials to these insects are great and keeping up with populations as they increase. That being said more times than not we will need to make an application to prevent astronomical numbers that they can put up in a short amount of time. Remember when scouting for these look at the shiny honeydew they leave behind and check the leaf directly above for populations.

Click the button below for more information on SCA!!

[Here!!](#)

Spidermites are not limited to just the corn as well, as I have been getting reports of mites up to the flag leaf of some booting sorghum in areas around Oklahoma Lane. As we head out and look for headworms in sorghum keep an eye out for sorghum midge! Threshold for these guys is **1 per head**.



Headworm is a growing concern as many of our acres are just now starting to go to soft dough as it finishes up flowering. Use that headworm calculator I sent out for best results.

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

**Cotton** in the area ranges from 5 nodes above white flower (NAWF) to blooming out the top. Bollworms are still a concern as they can still get in an damage quarter grown squares we set a few weeks ago during our last effective bloom date. Consider that egg lay as well, as some products will catch eggs and some will not. With 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. Do not spray on egg lay here in the high plains.





Yellow Stripped "True" Armyworm feeding on candle boll

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 4-5 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!

Want to talk about the presence of stink bugs and cotton staining insects here in the western High plains as it pertains to effecting lint quality.



Conchuela Stink bugs (Nymph pictured left) can be a big problem late season. Threshold on these guys is going to be **1 every 6 row foot**. The conchuelua is not the only one to be looking for, some others in this area include the green, brown, and rough stink bugs. Check out our facebook pages for some fun facts about these guys.



Lastly I want to give some recognition to Todd Whalen at the **Kdhn (the twister) 1470 am Radio** station based out of Dimmitt for allowing me to speak on some crop updates and patterns seen throughout the field.

Todd has given me a ten minute time slot at 6:45am to speak on topics I feel need to get to producers and is great at leading the conversation to a worthwhile talk on **Wednesday mornings**.

**As always, a big thanks to the sponsors listed to the left for their continued support in my program!**



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

Editor: John Thobe, Extension Agent-IPM  
Contact information: 118 W Ave C Muleshoe, Tx 79347