



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

Happy Friday everyone, and welcome to July. As showers continue to dump rain on us, we find ourselves at field capacity in many cases across the territory.

Sorghum in the area ranges from V-E to V-8 as I spoke about earlier this week. Pests and problems in the area range from environmental to light whirl feeding in the crop. We do see a bit of damage on especially younger sorghum as we establish root zones with heavy wind, and in some cases hail.

Stepping out into any field you can find whirl feeding by Fall Armyworm and in many cases we can see at least one or two plants with this feeding in only five minutes. Remember for fall armyworm we are looking for this very pronounced “Y” on the head. Also, we are starting some corn leaf aphids as pictured below, as we move farther into the season.



No SCA yet this season here, but we are picking them up in Southeastern Texas, as well as Northeast New Mexico. As always, I will be sure to mention them on our podcast as well as this newsletter as they move through the panhandle.

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

Also, sign up for the IPM podcast to the left for weekly updates sent to your phone!!

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Lygus Nymph 5th instar



Adult lygus



Nymph Cotton Flea Hopper (CFH)



Adult Cotton Flea Hopper (CFH)

Corn in the area is between the V-6 and V-9 and is also experiencing some worm pressure. I have caught Fall Armyworm and corn ear worm in these early stages of corn pressure during this season. I have also heard a report of Southwestern corn borer already this year.



This pest is very inconsistent and a bit tough to scout for as the adults are very “flighty” and the egg masses are a bit different, pictured left.

Cotton in the area ranges from 5 leaf to half grown squares, and though it got a bit of weather, a bit of sunlight will do wonders. On the pest side of things, speaking with consultants and industry as well as my own scouting, we have seen a bit of everything. Cotton flea hoppers, Lygus, Cotton aphids, and small pockets of false chinch bugs can be found through-out our acres. Weeds in the ditches and field margins are saving us a bit, in that these insects prefer this lush vegetation as opposed to a small cotton plant.

I think it’s safe to say this coming week will be very important in terms of scouting and timely applications once things dry out a bit and pests begin to really take off.

Lastly, I’d like to take the opportunity to say thank-you to my newsletter sponsors listed below. They have been fantastic in supporting not only this newsletter, but also my program!



Have a happy and safe 4th of July weekend



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