



Western HIGH PLAINS IPM Update

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



July 27, 2021

Vol 2 – No. 9

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Western High Plains Crop Update

Short pop up showers cover the tri-county area as we enter into another crucial part of the season. I'll jump right in.

Cotton in the area has come a long way, from where it was, we have made up many heat units as we close the gap and begin to see blooms more regularly though the fields. Stage, you guessed it, varies from $\frac{3}{4}$ grown squares to 7 nodes above white flower (NAWF). PGR applications still going out but we need to be careful to not "over shoot the landing" as they say. August is going to be a very important month to make our cotton. Disease in cotton is almost non-existent.

On the entomology side of things, we begin to shift our focus from CFH and minor Lygus populations to Boll worms. Still look for Lygus out there in large populations, but for the most part they have either moved on or been hit by something as 90% of acres have been treated for CFH. **Bollworm** is going to be a big factor this year. Most of our cotton has a surrounding sorghum and more importantly corn field to pick up our large numbers of bollworms. For fields that do not have this luxury we have to be very vigilant.

Pictured right is going to be a first instar of a Cotton bollworm in a white flower. This was taken by myself this morning in Bailey.

Action threshold for these 6% damaged bolls or 8,000 worms per acre. At the moment with we can spot these guys as we walk across the field and poke our heads over the top.

If you haven't yet, catch this past week's talk, or sign up **Free** on the left below the date.



IPM podcast link is to the left to sign up for it.

For the direct link, this week click below.

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

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Pictured left is a Yellow striped (True) Armyworm, we see these from time to time in gardens, weeds like this one in pigweed, but we are getting them in cotton. These guys are doing a bit of foliar feeding on the tops of cotton across the county. A couple of you have told me you noticed them crossing the road!

Sorghum in area ranges from V-3 to 50% bloom. Looking over all the acres the average is looking at that V-8 range as we begin to expect boot. **This past week we did catch SCA** in Johnson grass as well as in a seed production field. The producer, as well as a handful of consultants were



contacted. Found just North of Muleshoe on some late April planted sorghum. Threshold on these guys is going to be an average of **50-125 aphids per leaf across 60 plants checked**. For reference the photo above is well past this threshold, but is it wide spread though the plant as well as the field? Consider application after 50 per leaf average if you check once a week as these will blow up quickly. If you have any questions on what you're seeing, how wide spread, or actions give me a call.

Seems to be a buggy year all around, we now have had every major pest show its face in our counties. Pictured left are just a few pictures in sorghum I caught this week.

Corn is quiet for now. Frequent rain and low disease is allowing these plants take off. We did see that foliar feeding by Falls and Earworms. A few sprays have gone out for SWCB but in rare cases. We do have spidermites at some capacity in every field. Precipitation and beneficials have keep them at bay for the next week it looks to me. We are catching them at high enough amounts to warrant a spray East of us, so be on the lookout. If you want me to take a look at some spidermite populations contact me!

Thanks to the sponsors listed to the Left!!



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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