



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

**“Just living life between break downs” -G. Clark**

I was thinking of a good line to start off my newsletter and I got this little gem. Seems like we are just a little bit of a slow period right now on the entomological side of things as we are side dressing corn, PGR applying on cotton, cutting wheat, and planting sorghum.

**Corn** in the area is blowing and going with the amount of water being pushed to it, stages range from V-3 to V-8 and chest tall in some areas. Going to have a bit of help hopefully Sunday with rain chances looking a bit better and again on Tuesday. Very common practice is hitting corn at tassel for a fungicide application as well as a miticide. Make sure you have the pest out there before you spend the money, it doesn't have to be a “built in cost”

Also, bit early for it but be on the look out for the southern corn rootworm beetle to give you a hint if you have a rootworm problem. Beetle bombing at the adult stage to cut down on the population is a good way to manage this pest. Best way is of course Bt selections prior to planting. Give me a shout if you would like to speak more on this subject.

**Sorghum** in the area, as mentioned earlier is still going in the ground behind failed out cotton. Acres are 85% planted in the three counties with A bit more to go in still. Fall Army worms, and even Corn ear worm populations are extremely high this year and will be doing some foliar feeding in corn as well as sorghum. Haven't seen much yet but they could blow up quickly. SCA reports out of the South are coming in as a fairly average year so if you don't have a tolerant variety keep an eye on them!



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

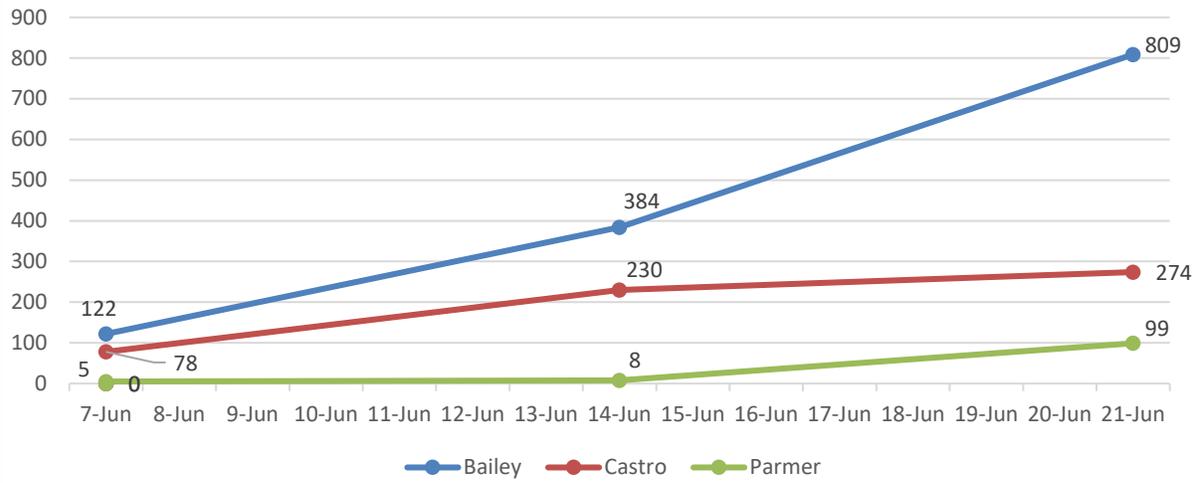
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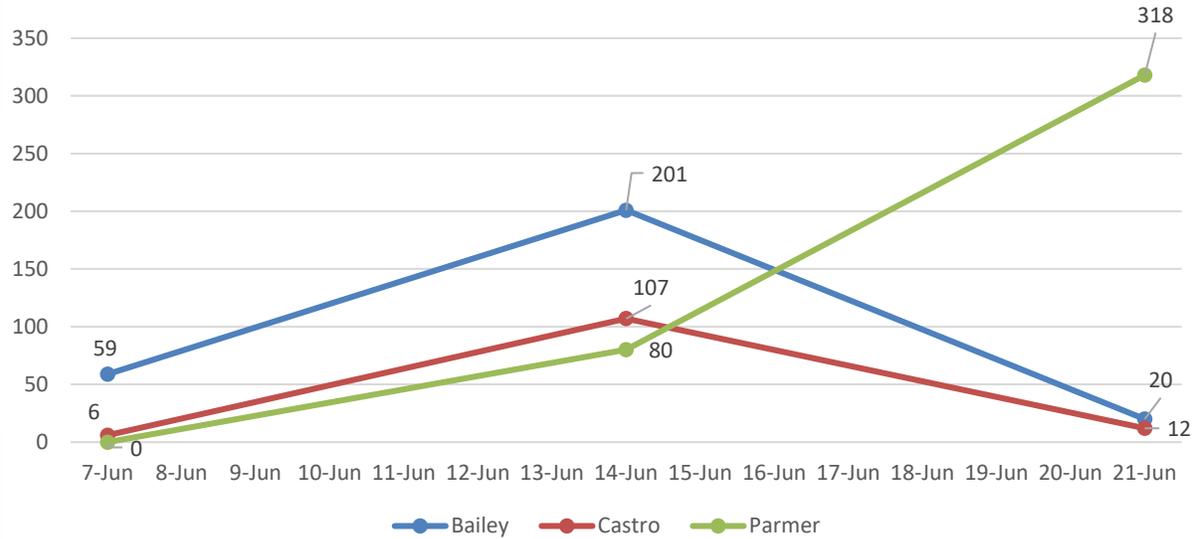
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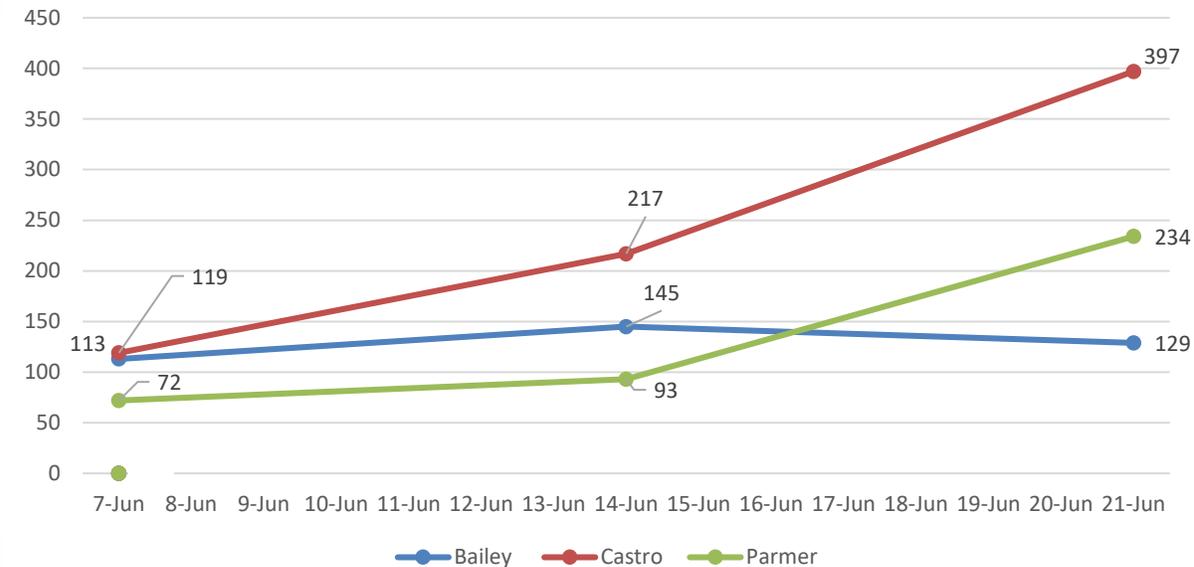
### Fall Armyworm Counts



### Southwestern Corn Borer Counts



### Corn Ear Worm Moth Counts



Not really a whole lot of “trend based” conclusions we can pull from this information. Only thing I can say for sure about these trappings is overall, through the three counties we are well above average.



**Cotton** in the area ranges in stage with some 8% of fields only at Cotadence up to 1/3 grown squares in early planted cotton. PGR season is upon us, remember that plant is delicate at this stage but we need to set a standard of expectations. What I mean by this is we need to train that plant that we don't want it to focus on being the tallest tree in the forest. Yes vertical growth is important, but if we let that plant get "girthy or rank" we aren't making any money.

Wanted to speak a bit on timing of PGR applications first shot going out somewhere around pinhead square, in a perfect world the day that you reach 60% of the plants in the field are at that pinhead. They are a bit tough to see sometimes, check the 7<sup>th</sup> true leaf and look at the base of leaf where it touches the stock of the plant.



In order to determine this length measure from the upper most unfolded leaf in the terminal and count four more leaves down after that. Late season we want this length to be **5 inches in total at most**.

Stressing the plant with a PGR and drought will make this number go down, this can be good to a point. If you stress the plant out to much you can begin "Chunking squares".

Monitor this, stay on top of your PGR regiment and use this to determine when to apply again, label says 7-10 days, this floats with what the plant is telling you based on these measurements.

As always do a representative sample catch 15-20 plants at random per quarter of the field. If you know you have the water you can push to as much as 1/2 of an inch between inner nodes, but again keep it under 1" between these nodes.

Hey, Thanks again to the sponsors to the Left

Got **Jarod Allen** with **CHS** last week, just added **Jordy Roland** at **North Gin** added!!!