



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, buckle up its going to be a long one.

Cotton Ranges in stage from 6 NAWF to blooming out the top. Main concern right now is the amount of boll retention seen across the three counties. Now is the time growers are seeing shed of these very young bolls that were just being considered a boll then dropped with the heat. It's very likely that this damage is a few weeks old and just hung in there turning yellow but a strong wind hasn't come up yet so it didn't all go on the ground right away.

For this region for the most part anything under white flower at the beginning of this week aren't going to make it in time. Couple exceptions to this of course, depending on first freeze, what kind of heat we are going to get in August and so on. Last year it seemed we got our heat units made up quickly, this year it looks to be slowing down in heat units and increase in cloud cover as we get a couple light showers here and there.

Entomologicly we are mightly light so far, I like to harp on the bollworms, stinkbugs, beneficial insects and other late season cotton stainers. Simply due to the fact that we can keep our eyes out for them as opposed to doing a rain dance!

PGR applications are being considered along with some late season weed surpression, applications this late need to be pretty stout if anything is hoped to be achieved. We turned the corner a bit in the overall health of the crop, looking a bit better. Measure those innernodes, take into consideration the stage, remember that the plant is going to grow it simply decreases the gap between cells. If you decide to put a pgr out this late I would recommend not doing anything under 18oz of Mepiquat (Generic).

Always follow the label and recommended use rate, but make it worth your while if you're going across it this late.

On a separate document I have attached a Harvest aid and defoliation demonstration from A couple years ago, just to give a few different ways to cut this cotton down as we enter into September. Give it a look over, know that 52oz of Prep, waiting a week, and hitting it with gramoxone isn't the only tool in your tool belt!



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

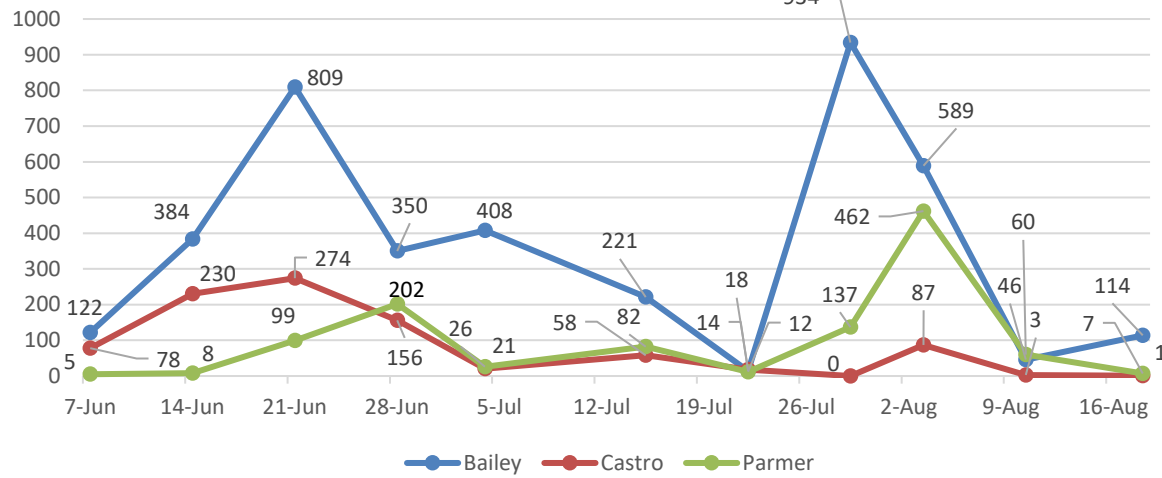
[Bailey](#)

[Castro](#)

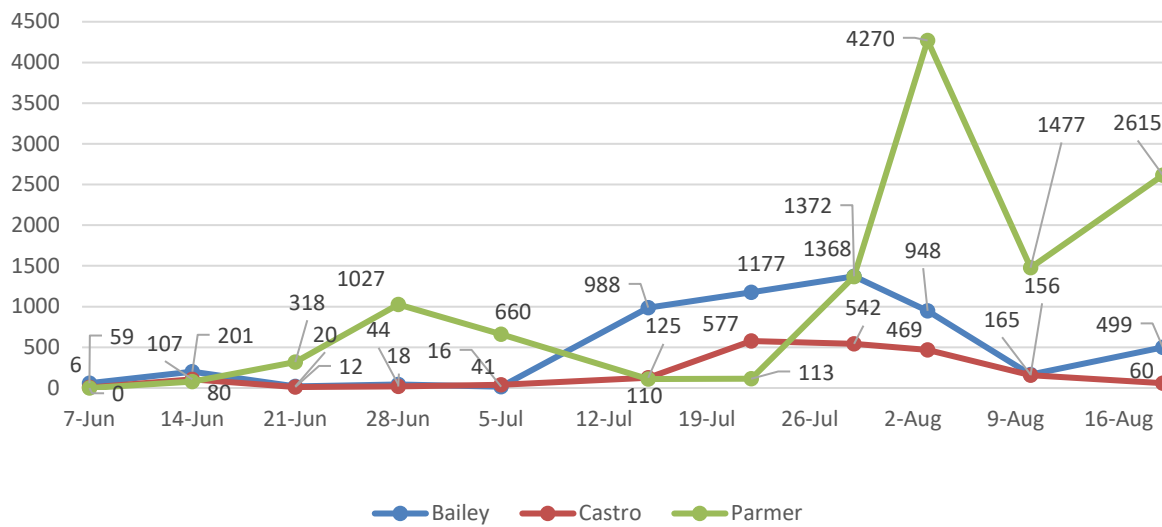
[Parmer](#)



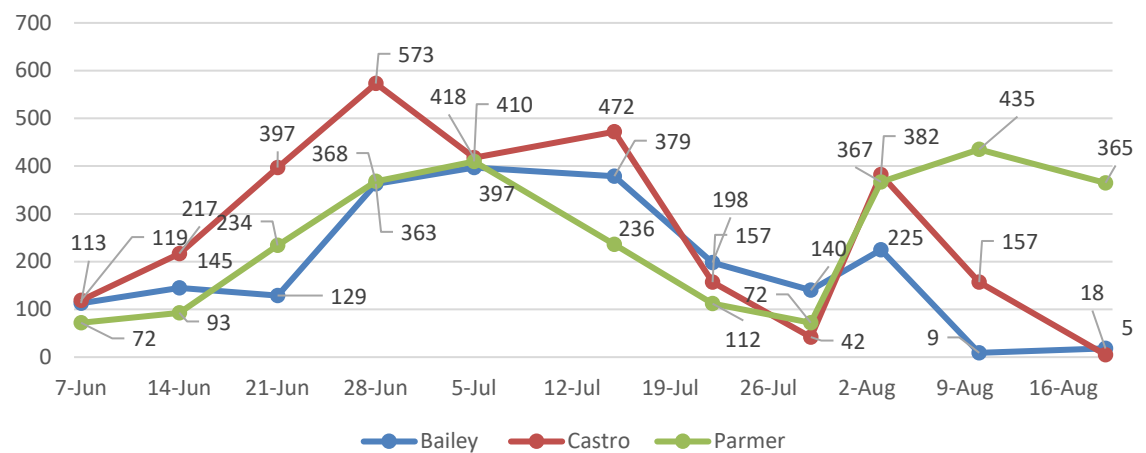
Fall Armyworm Counts



Southwestern Corn Borer Counts



Corn Ear Worm Moth Counts



Seems to be a trend of decreasing about of numbers across the board. I would like to point out that the CEW numbers are on the decrease as they have lodged themselves in surrounding corn, sorghum, and some cotton fields in the area. Seems like you can find readily find a CEW in every ear in a corn field and in some instances 3-4 of them per ear. Now, given the cannibalistic nature of the CEW its reasonable to assume that you can get one worm per ear, same thing we are seeing in sorghum. As it comes out of that boot and into flowering, we are seeing only one per head. SWCB numbers are beginning to peter out as well except in Parmer, but I anticipate those numbers going down. FAW numbers are going down as they continue to do a bit of foliage damage throughout the tri county area.



Sorghum in the area ranges from boot to late soft dough out across the tri-county area. Populations of the sorghum aphid are all over the place but I haven't caught them in less dense silage. Once that shading starts they like to get in there. In the picture you'll see the adults, immatures, and mummified sorghum aphids. Keep an eye on how far up the plant they get based on V-stages and where that predator population is in correlation with them. **You may get away with not treating! If you need to treat do not treat on a cooler day ie <75 degrees.**

Corn in the area is definitely turning the corner with the investment of irrigation earlier in the season. Sun Scalding and that white papering of the leaves still an issue as it was beat up with the harsher dryer conditions opens an invasion Spidermite activity has been fairly active

with this hot and dry weather. Roughly 70% of fields have been sprayed so far. Mainly in the "corn country" over there in Castro County. **Threshold is 30% of the leaf on 30% of plants.** Miticides typically take **10 days to work.**

Keep that in the back of your mind. When using a miticide know the population, the stage of the insect and the severity of the pest. Not all miticides are made equal. They all have what they are good at and when used correctly work very effectively!

Y'all sign up for the podcast if you'd like to hear regional findings, catch me on KDHN 102.7FM or 1470AM out of Dimmitt Wednesday mornings at 7:15 check your county facebook pages for more information.

Stay classy high plains.