



Western  
HIGH  
PLAINS  
IPM  
Update

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

Sept 2, 2022



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IPM Podcast Click

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## Western High Plains Crop Update

Welcome to September, got a couple showers, everything is slowing down a bit. If you haven't taken a little trip, now is the time!

**Cotton** in the area is really closing the gap on stage as most fields are 2-3 NAWF. This last shot of rain in the area should sustain us through the rest of the season until its time to kill some cotton. Deep tap root is able to go down and find water if needed, but fields have good moisture, also the temperatures haven't been over 95 consistently. Cool mornings, cloud cover, and dew have kept evapotranspiration rates at a low.

Big thing now as we start to wind down and for the most part entomologically we are slowing down is the **stage**. Pictured right is the first crack boll of the season. Following the sprayer tracks you can more than likely catch one on the lower part of the plant where the plant was disrupted by the sprayer and desicated faster than the rest of the fruiting postions. Keep a close eye on this stage as crack bolls start making their way up the plant we want to start planning a harvest aid application around **75% crack boll**. We are a long ways away but wouldn't hurt to start pricing some products.



Going to mention entomologically we still need to be on the lookout for **bollworm** of course and that threshold is **6% of HARVESTABLE fruit**. That determination can be made in field but if its not going to make in time then you cant count that. If you have questions give me a shout. Also, not a huge problem across the board every year but July we picked up on some **stink bug pressure**, these cotton stainers can really take out some quality. Be on the lookout for them. Threshold is going to be **1 per 6'** with the insect present. They will more than likely hit smaller "quarter size bolls" check four sides of the field, cut into the boll and look for damage.

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

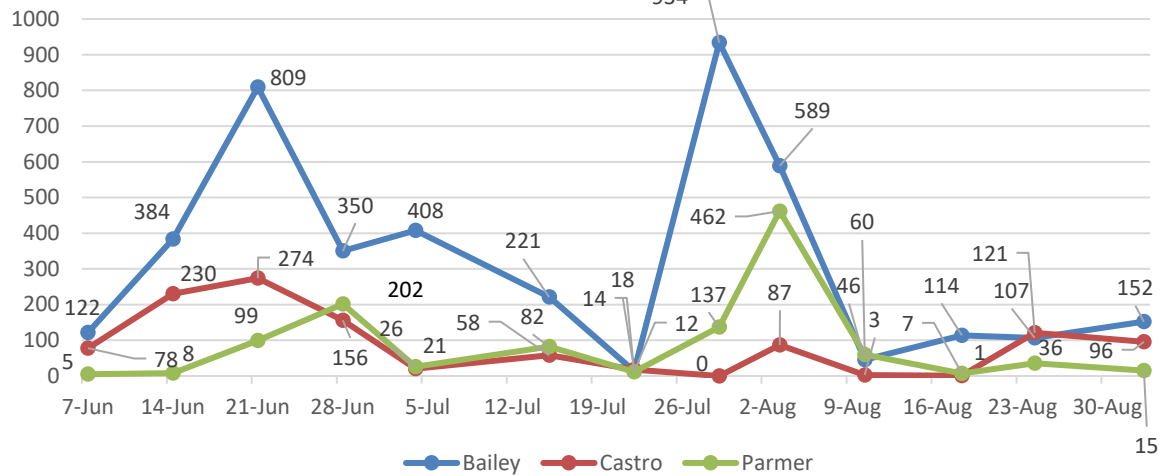
[Bailey](#)

[Castro](#)

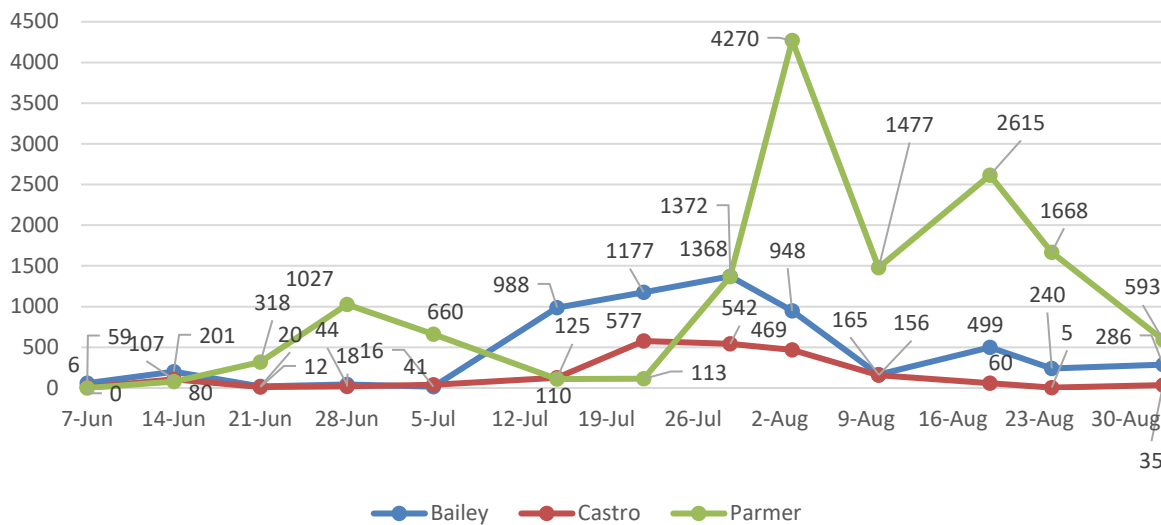
[Parmer](#)



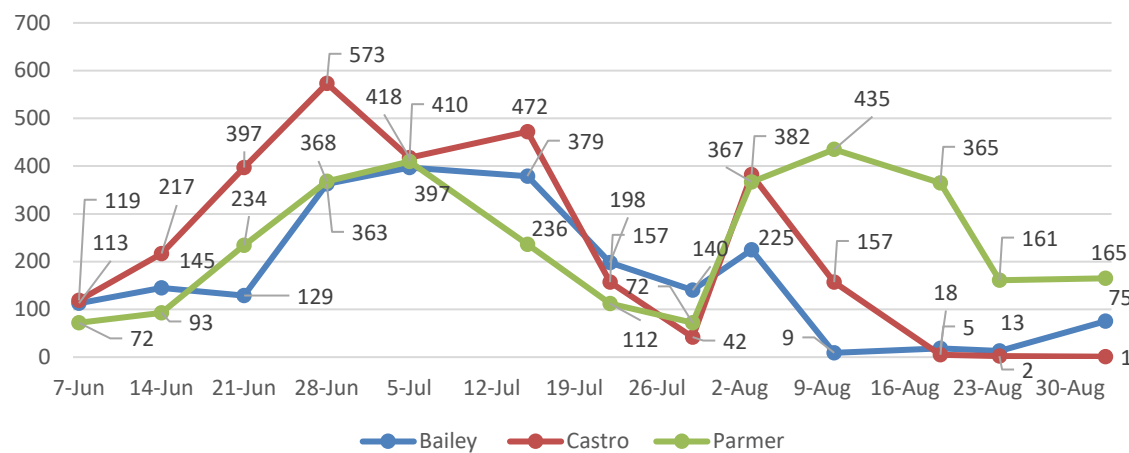
### Fall Armyworm Counts



### Southwestern Corn Borer Counts



### Corn Ear Worm Moth Counts



Well, as I mentioned a few weeks ago we are wrapping up this Texas Corn Producer's sponsored moth trapping and monitoring for the year. I pulled all my traps from the field yesterday as we see a major decline in all numbers across the board. That being said Dr. Pat Porter did catch an increase in FAW populations this past Wednesday that is higher than the 11 year average. Thanks again to the producers who allowed me to put these up this past year and also to Bryce White and Angie Martin with Texas Corn Producers and Rick Auckerman Deaf Smith county agent for the assistance this year as well!!

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**Sorghum** ranges in stage just a bit most fields are sitting in that late flowering to early soft dough. Haven't seen a field be cut just yet, but in the next 10 days we should be seeing some! The sorghum aphid as always is a big concern and harvestability aside if you haven't treated for them yet you may be in the clear as you don't want to get too close to that **P.H.I.** Headworm has also fallen off the table for the most part. Got a couple fields that needed to be hit due to severity of the pest but a couple late fields may not get it! I kept forgetting to put this in. Click [here](#) for the Sorghum headworm Calculator!

**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. Spidermites I believe are in the rearview as we run into that **P.H.I.** again in most situations. Speaking with Kelly Kettner the other day, it seems like early planted (Late April) and late planted (Mid June) corn has less of a likelihood to catch spidermites as bad due to the window being a bit small for them. I mean to say early planted corn had populations of beneficials built up to combat the mites, and late planted corn missed the wave due to its attractiveness to the mites while everything was tasseling that late planted was still in the V stages of its development. Definitely an interesting observation and something to keep in mind for next year. Keep praying for rain, we need it to get this wheat planting up!

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 Western High Plains.**

*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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