



Western HIGH PLAINS IPM Update

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



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IPM Podcast Click

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Western High Plains Crop Update

Going to jump right in as there is a lot to speak about. Rain if you were lucky enough to receive some was spotty to say the least 7-7 Hart got an inch 7-4 Maple got an inch and its raining now in Friona and acrossed Bovina! Precipitation is always welcome as long as it doesn't bring the great white combine with it.

Cotton in the area ranges in stage from pinhead to first bloom caught in Rhea on the 5th of July. Fleahoppers and Lygus still the big story, management decisions still to be made to pull the trigger on them or not remember, like thrips we are going to try to outpace them to 50% bloom to be safe. Once there we note them like we do on thrips.

Table 4. Cotton fleahopper action thresholds

Region	Fleahoppers	Cotton growth stage	
Blacklands	10–15 per 100 terminals (terminal inspection)	During squaring	
Coastal Bend	15–25 per 100 terminals (terminal sampling)		
Winter Garden Lower Rio Grande Valley	In development: 20–40 adults and nymphs per 100 plants (beat bucket sampling)		
Panhandle South Plains Permian Basin Rolling Plains Trans Pecos	25–30 per 100 terminals (terminal inspection)	Week of squaring	Square set
		1st week	< 90%
		2nd week	< 85%
		3rd week	< 75%
After 1st bloom, treatment is rarely justified.			

Here are the magic numbers, works out to be about **1 CFH every 2.5 row foot** of cotton. Lygus are much more damaging but having the problem proisit through long enough to justify a spray is rare but happens! **Lygus threshold is 1 every 4.5 feet.** So it takes less of them to trigger the economic threshold, again they are more rare to see. Know what you're looking at and what acceptable numbers are before making a decision. Check that square drop to be sure its worth while to be spraying.

I know its early, but we are picking up on **bollworm** already in cotton. If you have been watching moth trap numbers **(page 2)** in the area this shouldn't surprise you.



Lygus on the Left and CFH on the right. Note the antenna color on the Lygus and the positioning of the hind legs on either insect. CFH will be closer to the body. Oh, by the way, either one you could fit 15 on a dime!



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

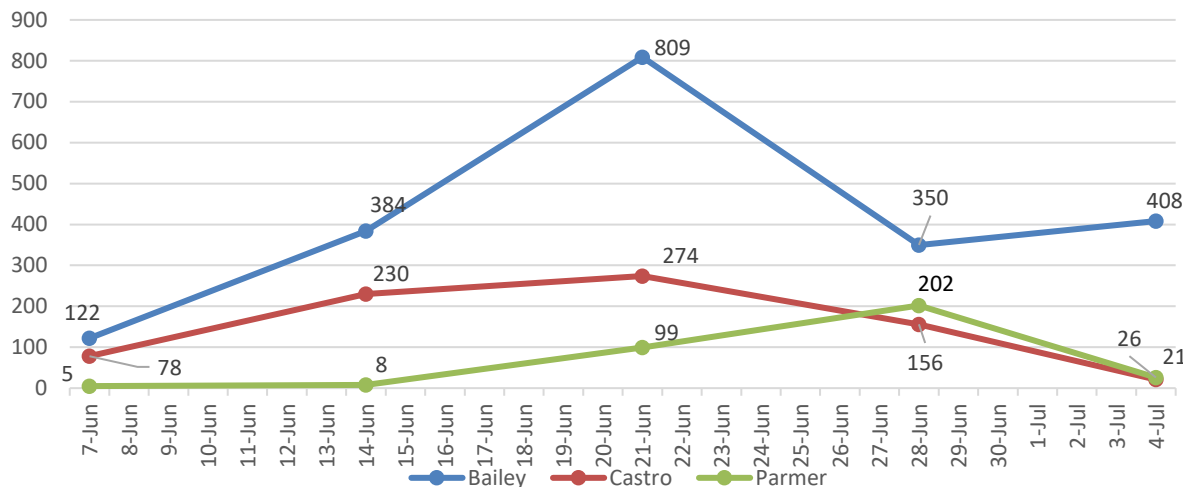
[Bailey](#)

[Castro](#)

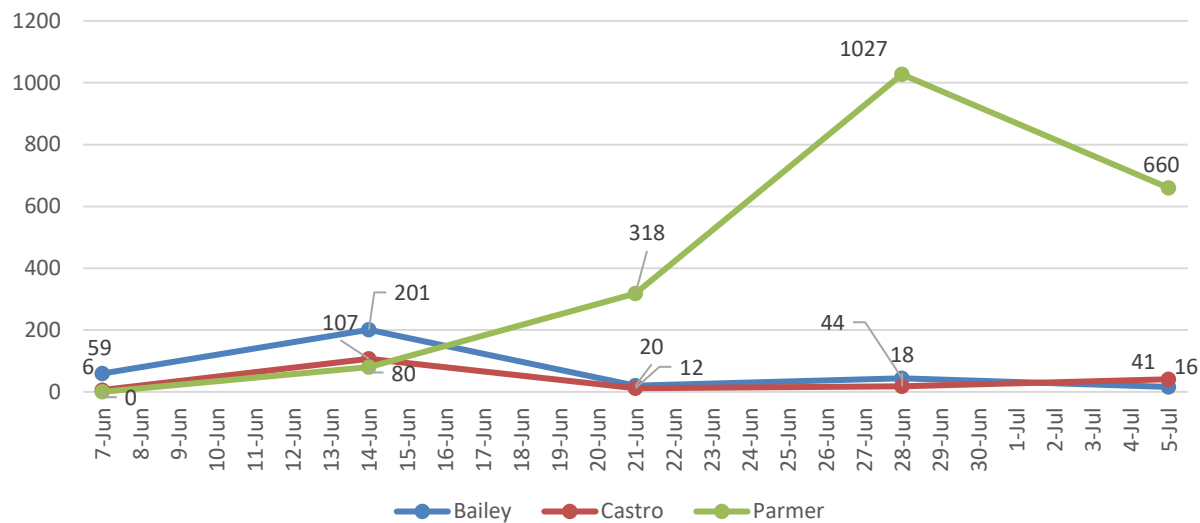
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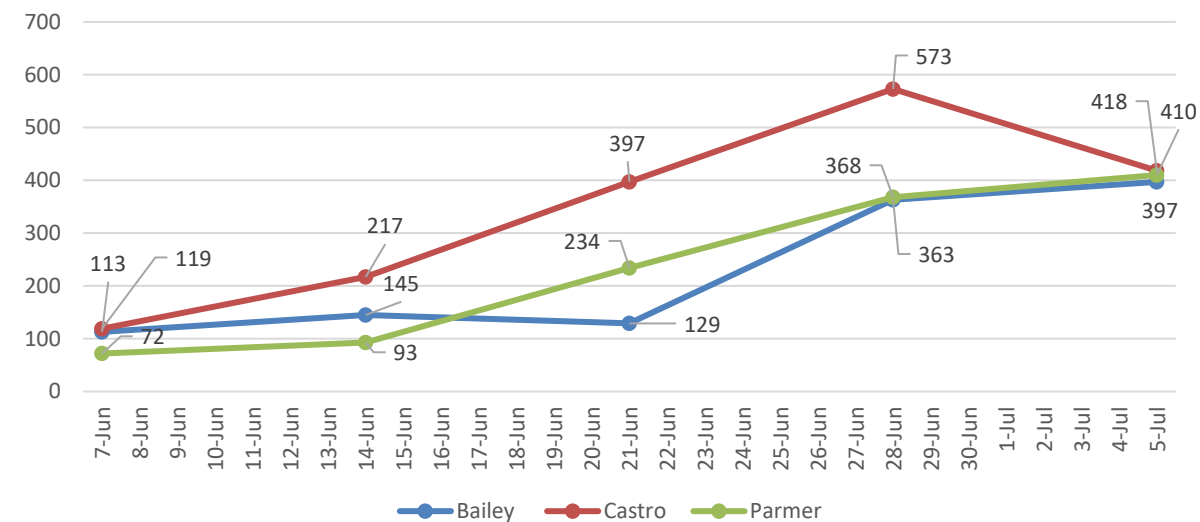
Fall Armyworm Counts



Southwestern Corn Borer Counts



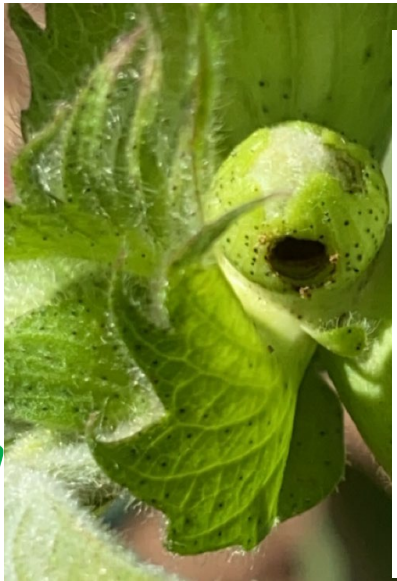
Corn Ear Worm Moth Counts



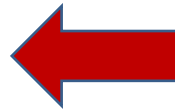
Very interesting trends starting to present themselves. Still seeing that increase in CEW even as they begin to move into our cotton. These numbers should peak in August, but again they are eyebrow raising in the first week of July. SWCB numbers are extremely low in Bailey and Castro but high in Parmer, very interesting as Castro has much more corn. FAW numbers going down slowly, hopefully this means they wont be doing the amount of whirl feeding I anticipated.



Cotton continued, because I could speak on this for hours. PGR is flying out onto fields as growers push water and focus their efforts on fruit production. Remember a healthy plant is great but don't focus on UP focus on OUT. Measure that inner node length from the upper most unfurrowed leaf, 5 nodes (branches down) if this equals 1" you have a healthy length. A couple guys are shooting for less than this as they want to pack those fruiting branches closer together to maximize yield.



Know your damage



Bollworm



Lygus



Sorghum in the area looking good, stages range from planting to V-10 in some spots, keep an eye out for foliar feeding. Headworm starting off early along with some Fall Army Worms making their presence known. SCA or the (renamed insect) **Sorghum Aphid** has been found and is a bit early for the year. Found in Parmer county road ditches by a consultant. I haven't found it yet. Normally the aphid starts in the Southeast and makes its way up to Amarillo before we catch it in our farthest East fields (Hart). Stay tuned on this development.

Corn acres although down this year in comparison with previous years due to availability of water and predictions of annual rainfall is still progressing. Stage across the board ranges from V-5 to R-3. Scouting for corn should consist of disease, entomological problems, and importance of fertilization needs. Foliar, chemigation, or sidedressing depending on stage is very important! Starting to pick up very light populations of **Spidermites**. Very light populations haven't found a good "colony" yet. Keep checking for them hot and dry = higher populations. ID is always important but not as much as knowing the infestation levels in the field and when to act. This could save you a spray. They work their way up from the bottom check the V-3 leaf along the midrib.

That should do it, Y'all call with questions, sign up for the free podcast by clicking the link on the first page (bottom left), catch me on the radio KDHN 102.7 FM Wednesdays at 7:30, check out your county's Facebook page for more Information.

Thanks to all the sponsors to the left! Thanks to all the cooperators in the area! Last but not least thanks to all the ag industry for all that you do!

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