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PEST MANAGEMENT NEWS

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Text “Follow @Midcoastipm” to the number 40404

We are still waiting for the next rain. Current forecasts show the chances getting better next week. Corn fields are showing drought stress in the afternoons.

Grain Sorghum

I have found corn leaf aphids and yellow sugarcane aphids in my test plots without insecticidal seed treatments, but I have not yet found them in grower fields. Corn leaf aphid does minimal feeding and is not usually an economic pest. They are often beneficial because they provide a food source for insect predators such as lady beetles, syrphid fly larvae and green lacewing larvae.

The yellow sugarcane aphids have shown up on sorghum plants in plots that do not have insecticidal seed treatments. They are not found in adjacent plots containing seed treated with Cruiser, Poncho 600, Gaucho 600 or Nipsit Inside.

These aphids are fairly easy to find due to the leaf injury they cause by injecting a toxin into the leaf. In the picture to the right, notice the purpling on the lower leaf. This is indicative of the yellow sugarcane aphid. These aphids can cause leaf injury when found in low numbers. The leaf in the picture had only one aphid on it. Below are the Extension economic thresholds for yellow sugarcane aphid.



Yellow sugarcane aphid leaf injury.

Table 7. Economic injury levels for yellow sugarcane aphid based on percentage of seedling plants infested at the two true-leaf stage.

Control cost (\$) per acre	Crop market value (\$) per acre							
	100	150	200	250	300	400	500	600
	Percent infested plants							
6	26	18	13	11	10	7	6	5
8	35	24	17	14	13	9	7	7
10	43	29	22	17	16	11	9	8
12	51	35	26	20	18	13	10	9

Table 8. Economic injury levels for yellow sugarcane aphid based on percentage of seedling plants infested at the three true-leaf stage.

Control cost (\$) per acre	Crop market value (\$) per acre							
	100	150	200	250	300	400	500	600
	Percent infested plants							
6	67	44	33	27	24	17	14	12
8	89	60	44	36	32	22	18	16
10	*	76	55	44	39	28	22	20
12	*	92	66	53	44	33	27	22

*Do not treat.

Cotton

Cotton plants continue to grow slowly. I am looking for thrips, aphids and mites in the fields I scout. These fields range in maturity from cotyledon to 3 true-leaf stage. As dry weather continues, the mites may become more of an issue.

Cotton Marketing Newsletter

Dr. Robinson’s cotton market newsletter is available by clicking on the following:

<http://agriflife.org/cottonmarketing/>

Field Research

If you have a topic that needs my attention, call me at 361-920-1138. We currently have 4 cotton trials and 6 sorghum trials planted on topics ranging from seed treatment insect control in cotton and sorghum, sugarcane aphid control, and seeding rate in sorghum.

IPM Newsletter

Text “**Follow @Midcoastipm**” to the number **40404** to receive notices of IPM Pest Management News on your mobile phone.

I plan on posting texts only when new IPM Newsletters are published. Thus, you will only get one text a week during the growing season. This will also link to a mobile friendly version of the newsletter.

Anyone wishing to receive this newsletter via email can contact me at biles-sp@tamu.edu.

Forward this newsletter as desired.

<http://calhoun.agrilife.org/newsletters/ipm-newsletter/>

Support for the 2013 IPM Program comes from the following:

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