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TEXAS IPM
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PEST MANAGEMENT NEWS

Calhoun, Refugio & Victoria Counties

VOLUME 10 ***ISSUE 8*** ***June 6, 2014***

Crop Tours

Refugio County (Tivoli 7:30 a.m., Bonnieview 4 p.m.)	11 June	361-526-2825
Victoria County (Dacosta Hall 2 p.m.)	12 June	361-575-4581
Calhoun County (Port Lavaca)	17 June	361-552-9747

Grain Sorghum

Sorghum maturity ranges from boot to milk stage. The primary insect of concern to look for is the **sugarcane aphid**. We found fields in Calhoun County above what I consider a treatment threshold. These fields were averaging more than 100 aphids per leaf on upper and lower leaves. In fields with less than 200 aphids per leaf, it is important to count the aphids rather than estimating the number.

50+ Sugarcane aphids on sorghum leaf

Field Meeting 1:30 Monday, June 9

We sprayed an insecticide control trial today and will conduct our first ratings Monday after lunch. If you want to discuss this aphid in the field, meet me at 1:30 Monday at the second turn on Park Rd. 1 mile east of FM 1090. I will also have this data at the crop tours in Refugio and Victoria Counties next week.

Sorghum midge numbers continue to be found in low numbers in the fields we are checking but could be high in other fields. Midge populations tend to increase and be more of a problem in later planted sorghum.

Stink bugs are the next insect pest I expect to find in sorghum. We are finding low numbers of them in some fields already.

Table 1. Rice Stink Bugs per Head Economic Thresholds (assumed crop value: $8.00/cwt).
https://insects.tamu.edu/extension/apps/sorghumricestinkbug/index.php

		Cost of Control ($/ Acre)		
		$6	$7	$8
Heads / acre	40,000	0.57	0.67	0.77
	60,000	0.38	0.45	0.51
	80,000	0.29	0.34	0.38
	100,000	0.23	0.27	0.31

Soybeans

We are finding several species of stink bugs in area soybean fields. Brown, southern green, red-banded and red-shouldered stink bugs are present in area fields. Treat stink bugs when numbers exceed 36/100 sweeps, or 24/100 sweeps for Red-Banded Stink bugs.

Cotton

Cotton fields are squaring and have 10-16 nodes per plant. We continue finding cotton fleahoppers at treatable levels. Treat cotton fleahopper when populations exceed 15 fleahoppers per 100 on cotton. I am looking for locations for fleahopper insecticide trials. Call me if you would like to see this on your farm. All I need is ½-3/4 acre.

In fields blooming or near bloom, begin to look for Verde Plant Bugs and Stink Bugs. Treat for verde plant bugs when populations exceed 15 bugs per 100 plants.

Support for the 2013 IPM Program comes from the following:

Woodsboro Farmer's Cooperative	South Texas Cotton and Grain Association
Moreman Coop	Helena Chemical
Hlavinka Equipment	Welfab
Numerous Producers	

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