

**MID-COAST IPM NEWS**

Calhoun

Refugio

Victoria

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**Cotton**

**Many Cotton fields are near or past cutout.** When the number of Nodes Above White Flower (NAWF) is equal to or less than five, the plant has reached physiological cutout. Once the plant has reached 5 NAWF, it will not continue to add a significant amount of harvestable fruit. Dan Fromme and Roy Parker have researched the amount of yield above the bloom at 5 NAWF and found that the amount of lint above this point rarely justifies protection from insect pests.

Count the number of main stem nodes above first position white flowers and average them and record the date when a field averages 5 NAWF. The timing of cutout (NAWF=5) is an important landmark for making end of season decisions. Begin counting the heat units (HU) from this date. Heat units are calculated by dividing the sum of the daily high and low temperature by two (2); then subtracting 60.

$$HU = (\text{Max temp} + \text{Min Temp}) / 2 - 60$$

**Example:**     **Daily high Temp = 90**                             **(90+75)/2 – 60 = 22.5 HU**  
                          **Daily low temp = 75**

Research has found that many insects prefer younger bolls and will cause less damage to older bolls. Cotton bolls will become “safe” from damage caused by different insects at different ages.

Pest Insect	Age of “Safe” Boll
Cotton Bollworm	350 HU after cutout
Stink Bug	450 HU
Fall Armyworm	550 HU

Bollworm larvae continue to be found in non-Bt fields and some stink bug feeding has been found in cotton fields. Continue to monitor all cotton fields for worms and stink bugs.

**Soybeans**

We have found stink bugs in numbers ranging from 0-48 stink bugs per acre. The dominant species is the southern green stink bug but green, brown and red-banded stink bugs are also present.

**Pastures**

Fall armyworms are being found in some pastures but each pasture should be checked separately. Treatment may be warranted when populations exceed 3 fall armyworms per square foot.

*Please show your appreciation to these supporters of YOUR IPM Program:*

**Hlavinka Equipment Company**  
**South Texas Cotton & Grain**  
**Vanderbilt Farmer’s Coop, Inc.**  
**Helena Chemical Company**  
**Cotton, Inc.**

**Moreman Community Gin**  
**Farmer’s Coop of El Campo**  
**Danevang Farmer’s Coop, Inc.**  
**Milo Genetics**  
**Texas Soybean Board**



### Grain Sorghum

Sorghum should be scouted for stink bugs and headworms until hard dough. Use the economic thresholds in the tables below for treatment decision making.

Glyphosate may be used as a harvest aid in sorghum after the grain is less than 30% moisture. This practice can reduce weed problems, accelerate dry-down, increase harvest speed or help to grab grain that didn't fully exert. Additionally, it is the first step in stopping stubble re-growth, eliminates the shredding operation and immediately stops further use of soil-stored moisture.

Using Weather Max or Original Max at 22 oz/ac will allow harvest in just 7-10 days. Do not use glyphosate in grain fields showing signs of charcoal rot. This will increase the risk of lodging.

Grain Sorghum Economic injury level for rice stink bug as number of bugs per acre at the milk stage.



Rice Stink bug

Control cost \$/acre	Grain value (\$/cwt)			
	6.00	7.00	8.00	10.00
6	30,500	27,000	23,000	18,500
8	40,500	35,000	30,500	24,500
10	51,000	43,500	38,000	30,500
12	62,000	52,500	46,000	36,500

Economic injury level for **medium-size (¼ to ½ inch)** corn earworm larvae shown as the number of larvae per acre. When the number of larvae per acre exceeds the number in the table at a given cost of control and value of grain per cwt, the value of the protected grain exceeds the cost of control.

Control cost \$/acre	Grain value \$/100 lbs			
	6.00	7.00	8.00	10.00
6	51,500	44,750	38,250	31,250
8	68,500	58,000	51,500	41,750
10	87,750	73,750	64,500	51,500
12	102,750	88,250	77,750	62,000

<sup>1</sup> This table assumes 81 % of the medium-size larvae will die in that stage and not contribute to additional yield loss.

Economic injury level for **large (longer than ½ inch)** corn earworm larvae shown as the number of larvae per acre. When the number of larvae per acre exceeds the number in the table at a given cost of control and value of grain per cwt, the value of the protected grain exceeds the cost of control.

Control cost \$/acre	Grain value \$/100 lbs			
	6.00	7.00	8.00	10.00
6	9,750	8,500	7,250	5,750
8	13,000	11,000	9,750	7,750
10	16,250	14,000	12,250	9,750
12	19,500	16,750	14,750	11,750

<sup>1</sup> This threshold table assumes all larvae will survive and complete development.