



CARSON COUNTY AG



AUGUST 2014

Events

Crops Tour
September 8th
White Deer
Carson County Gin
10:30am



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Weed Management in Texas Cotton

Gaylon D. Morgan, Paul A. Baumann, and Peter A. Dotray

Using an integrated strategy that combines cultural, mechanical, and chemical methods can help you manage weeds in cotton effectively, economically, and with little harm to the environment.

The Choice of practices to use depends on the weed species being targeted, the infestation level, the crop growth stage, herbicide tolerance traits, the presence of herbicide-resistant weeds, and other crop management practices.

Cultural and mechanical weed control

- Remove low or spotty infestations of weeds by spot cultivation to prevent spreading weed rhizomes, roots, or seed. This is particularly important for perennial weeds because they propagate by seed and root tissue.
- Before planting, use mechanical tillage to remove initial weed flushes; this practice can eliminate or at least reduce continued infestation.
- When plowing perennial weeds, take care to avoid spreading plant parts to other areas of the field.
- To prevent the spread of weeds to other areas, clean tillage and harvesting equipment thoroughly before moving from one field to the next, and require it of the custom harvesters before they enter your fields.
- Use weed-free planting seed to prevent weed infestations in the rows as well as the introduction of new weed species or herbicide-resistant weeds.
- Rotate to crops that physically outcompete certain weeds, causing them to gradually decline.
- During the growing season, consider using herbicides with different mechanisms of action (site of action) to help prevent herbicide-resistant weeds from developing. (Table 7. Go to <http://carson.agrilife.org/ag/publications> to read more).

Early-season weed management is critical to preserving yields, especially in cotton. Because cotton is a perennial, it devotes much of its early-season energy to its root system and less energy to shoot growth. Along with wide row spacing, this slow early-season shoot growth makes cotton less able to compete with early-season weeds.

Preplant burndown (PPB), preplant incorporated (PPI), and preemergence (PRE) herbicides help suppress early-season weed densities. Residual herbicides provide extra flexibility when timing postemergence applications. Applying PPB, PPI, and PREs also provides opportunities to rotate herbicides, which will help manage herbicide-resistant weeds and prevent them from developing.

Herbicide –resistant weed control

To manage herbicide-resistant weeds, implement the measures listed above, and add these:

- Combine herbicide use with mechanical, cultural, or biological methods.
- Rotate or mix herbicides with different mechanisms of action (Table 7) within a season.
- Where feasible, rotate crops, which will allow for rotating herbicides.
- Scout fields regularly for resistant weeds, and control the weed escapes before they produce seed.

**To read full report on Weed Management in Texas Cotton go to
<http://carson.agrilife.org/ag/publications/>**

Wheat Virus Early Detection Alert System Update

27th Aug. 2014

Jacob Price, Senior Research Associate

Plant Pathology- Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Amarillo TX

With the up and coming fall wheat season approaching, it is important to take actions to reduce the threat of wheat virus infection. Due to summer rains in many areas around Northern Texas, many producers will be taking advantage of soil moisture and planting early. It is critical to recognize that early planting increases your risk of virus infection so it is of the utmost importance to destroy all volunteer wheat near the planting site at least two weeks before planting. These late summer rains will likely increase the occurrence of volunteer wheat throughout the area and samples collected from Potter county have already been found to be infected by *Wheat streak mosaic virus* and *High Plains virus*.

If you have volunteer wheat in your area and would like to have it tested for virus presence please feel free to send samples to the diagnostics lab. Also, we will be conducting a survey in late October to determine early season virus presence in the Texas High Plains and ask that you collect samples from fields in your county for testing. Early virus detection will help you as producers better manage infected crops and to reduce losses due to these diseases.

We would also like to conduct an information survey to help us better understand the needs of local producers and design our practices and production meetings in accordance with your needs. Please click on the following link to take a short survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LK9RKN6>

All responses will be kept confidential and no records of individuals including name and contact information will be recorded. If you have any questions about the survey you may respond to this email or contact me directly at 806-677-5600. As always further information on wheat viruses throughout the Texas High Plains can be obtained by visiting the [Wheat Virus Early Detection Website](#).

Crops Tour

September 8, 2014 ~ Carson County Gin ~ 10:30am

Lunch will be sponsored by Carson County Gin

\$10 payable at door

2 CEU's offered

Topics:

- Insect Issues - Dr. Ed Bynum
- Crop Progress - Dr. Mark Kelly
- Weed Management - Dr. Peter Dotray

Please RSVP by September 5th to the Carson or Gray county Extension Offices

806-537-3882

806-669-8033

**For more information on Pre-emergent, Post-emergent Herbicides and
Wheat Variety Trials and High Plains Wheat Picks
Please go to <https://carson.agrilife.org>**