

WEST
PLAINS
IPM
UPDATE

News about
Integrated Pest
Management in
Hockley and
Cochran
Counties from
Kerry Siders

August 20, 2014

Vol. 19 – No. 16

Current Crop and Pest Situation

Not much has changed over the last couple of weeks in **cotton** other than the physiological state of the cotton itself. However, I would still not let your guard down for a while longer, especially in cotton which has late growth of squares and blooms, non BT cotton, or may have excessive nitrogen levels. Some fields, the earliest planted, are close to a point of maturity that most insects are of no consequence. This being said, most cotton will need to be monitored for at least another 10 days maybe through the first week in September for later cotton. If you will refer back to the last issue (#15) I discussed 400 heat units past the 5 nodes above white flower point, cotton is generally safe from most pests. Cotton aphids would be one insect which could develop up through boll opening. I doubt if this will be the case though this year, beneficials are really doing an excellent job of cleaning up.

Weeds continue to be a concern for some either after a recent shower or irrigation. Be careful in your enthusiasm to kill these weeds. First ask if these weeds are just cosmetic at this point, or will their seed production haunt you in the future (i.e. morningglory, marestail) or cause you harvest problems. Knowing that many of this pigweed is resistant to glyphosate, makes me want to encourage you to do whatever it takes to remove it. However, much of this has already gone to seed and to attempt removal might be a bit impractical. So save your money for a good harvest aid program and be prepared to do a much better job next year. Good luck.

Peanuts are generally doing well, but will need these warm temps to continue to finish out well. Stay on top of leaf spot, pod rot, and other diseases. Though the risk factors for disease have been high the past several days, I am still not seeing much in the way of foliar diseases. Irrigation will need to continue for a while unless rain is received. My suggestion on irrigation right now is frequency not volume. Many fields have good moisture below surface, however, if we do not keep the canopy and soil surface environment moist then those last pegs trying to form a pod will have a difficult time.

Grain sorghum has been making good progress where rains or irrigation have been received. Headworms, midge, greenbugs and spider mites must be monitored closely on this post boot milo. I have been finding worms on post flowering fields.

Upcoming Meetings:



Hockley County Variety RACE Trial Field Day

August 27th 9:30 A.M.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office of Hockley County will hold its annual field day at the RACE Trial located on Cory Aires farm. **The farm is located 6 miles west of the Oxy plant on the South side of Hwy 114.** We will be discussing the different varieties and how they will benefit you and your operation. Mark Kelly, cotton specialists will be on hand to cover each variety and discuss its benefits. If you have any questions please call Wes Utley, Hockley County Extension Agent at (806) 894-3159

Pesticide Applicators Training

Required to obtain private pesticide applicators license from Texas Department of Agriculture

August 21 and 28, 1 PM, Extension Office - Levelland

Cost \$60. Please call the day before training to reserve your spot! 806 894-3159

See You On The Radio

IPM Radio Program Ag Talk on Fox Talk KJTV, radio 950 AM, on Wednesdays from 1:00 to 2:15 pm.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in Hockley County Report on KLVT Levelland, High Plains Radio Network, radio 1230 AM, Wednesdays from 7:30 am to 7:45 am.

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Editor: Kerry Siders, Extension Agent-IPM

Contact information: 1212 Houston St., Suite 2 Levelland, TX 79336

(806) 894-3150 (office),

638-5635 (mobile), or 897-3104 (Fax)

ksiders@tamu.edu (E-mail),

<http://hockley-tx.tamu.edu> (County website)

www.tpma.org (TPMA website)



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