

WEST
PLAINS
IPM
UPDATE

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

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General Situation

With few exceptions most area crops are taking advantage of this sunny, warm weather. Last Friday's storms brought good rain but it also brought further destruction to scattered areas. Cochran received hail damage southwest of Morton, destroying several hundred acres of cotton.

Pest activity has picked up this week. Scouts are finding Lygus more consistently now and a few fields the square set is dropping somewhat. Watch this pest carefully.

My focus the next couple weeks will be to educate sorghum producers about the sugarcane aphid as it is moving closer by the day.

A series of producer meetings have been scheduled, with more to come, to discuss how to identify the sugarcane aphid, how to check fields for this pest, and how to manage it. 1 IPM CEU will be provided.



Sugarcane Aphid Turnrow Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, **July 22**, 9:00am, Wilbur Ellis-Levelland

Thursday, **July 23**, 8:30am, Platinum Bank Levelland (sponsored by Farmers Coop Elevator, Levelland)

Friday, **July 24**, 9:00am, CHS-Anton

Monday, **July 27**, 9:00am, AG Products, Levelland

Tuesday, **July 28**, 8:00am, CHS-Ropesville

*For more information call Kerry @ 806 638-5635
More to come in Lamb and Cochran Counties soon!*

Lygus Bugs

The western tarnished plant bug (*Lygus hesperus* Knight) is one of several *Lygus* species that feeds on cotton terminals, squares and small bolls. Adults are 1/4 inch long, have a conspicuous triangle in the center of the back, are winged, and vary in color from pale green to yellowish brown with reddish brown to black markings. Immature lygus bugs are called nymphs. They are uniformly pale green with red-tipped antennae; late instars have four conspicuous black spots on the thorax and one large black spot near the base of the abdomen. The nymph's wings are not developed, but nymphs can move rapidly and are difficult to detect in cotton foliage. Small nymphs may be confused with aphids, cotton fleahoppers and leaf hopper nymphs. Plant bugs prefer legumes to cotton and usually are found in large numbers in areas of alfalfa or potato production or areas providing wild hosts such as clovers, vetches, mustard and dock.



Lygus bugs are attracted to succulent growth; their feeding results in shedding of squares and small bolls, stunted growth and boll deformation. Feeding damage to small bolls is often characterized as small black spots or small, sunken lesions. The feeding that causes these spots or lesions may or may not penetrate the boll wall and damage developing seeds or lint. Damage to blooms appears as black anthers and puckered areas in petals.

Management and decision making. The need for lygus bug control is determined by their abundance in relation to the fruiting condition of the cotton plants. Fields should be inspected for lygus bugs at 4- to 5-day intervals using a drop cloth.

During the first week of squaring, the economic threshold is one lygus bug adult or nymph per 3 feet of row combined with less than 90 percent square set. In the second week of squaring, the economic threshold is one lygus bug adult or nymph per 3 feet of row combined with less than 85 percent square set. In the third week of squaring, the economic threshold is one lygus bug adult or nymph per 3 feet of row combined with less than 75 percent square set. After the third week of squaring, the economic threshold is two lygus bug adults or nymphs per 3 feet of row with less than acceptable fruit retention. After peak bloom, begin treatment when drop cloth counts exceed two lygus bug adults or nymphs per 3 feet of row and plants have failed to retain squares and set bolls normally during the first 4 to 5 weeks of fruiting.

Research in Arizona and California indicates that the western tarnished plant bug (*Lygus hesperus*) may be more difficult to control with insecticides and may require the use of higher labeled rates of suggested insecticides.

Suggested Insecticides for control of cotton fleahoppers and Lygus.

Insecticide	Formulated amount per acre	
	Fleahopper	Lygus
Address® 75S	4 - 5.33 oz.	10.66 - 21.33 oz
Address® 90S	3.34 - 4 oz	9 - 17.77
Orthene® 90S	3.34 - 4 oz	9 - 17.77
Orthene® 97	3.10 - 3.71 oz	8 - 16 oz
Intruder 70 WP	0.6-1.1 oz	----
Capture® 2E	----	2.6 - 6.4 oz
Baythroid® 2E	----	1.6 - 2.6 oz
Leverage® 2.7SE	----	3.75 oz
Karate® 1E	----	2.56 - 3.84 oz
Karate® 2.08 CS	----	1.28 - 1.92 oz
Ammo® 2.5 E	----	2 - 5 oz
Decis® 1.5 E	----	1.11 - 1.62 oz
Lorsban® 4E	6 - 16 oz	----
Bidrin® 8E	0.8 - 3.2 oz	8 oz
Dimethoate® 2.67E	5.3 - 10.5 oz	10.7 oz
Dimethoate® 4E	4 - 8 oz	8 oz
Dimethoate® 5E	3.2 - 6.4 oz	6.4 oz
Asana XL® 0.66E	----	5.8 - 9.6 oz
Proaxis 0.5 E	----	2.56 - 3.84 oz
Prolex 1.25 E	----	1.02 - 1.54 oz
Provado® 1.6F	3.75 oz	3.75 oz
Trimax 4F	1.5 oz	
Steward® 1.25SC	9.2 - 11.3 oz	----
Lannate® 2.4LV	6 - 12 oz	0.75 pt
Methyl Parathion 4E	3.2 oz	1 - 2 pts
Vydate® 2L	1 pt	1 pt
Vydate® 3.77 C-LV	8.5 oz	12.7 - 34.0oz
Centric 40 WG	1.25-2.5 oz	
Parathion 8E	----	8 - 16 oz
Scout®X-tra 0.9E	----	2.28 - 2.84 oz
Fury® 1.5 E	----	2.99 - 4.26 oz

The use of synthetic pyrethroid insecticides may increase cotton aphid numbers

Private Pesticide Applicators Training

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer the required private Pesticide Applicators Training (PAT) in Morton on July 23 and again on August 27 in Levelland. This training is required by Texas Department of Agriculture before taking the exam for obtaining the license. A private pesticide applicator is a person who uses or supervises the use of a restricted-use or state limited-use pesticide or a regulated herbicide for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity. This license is not for those receiving monetary compensation for a pesticide application.

To participate in a training individuals must call 806-266-8858 by 3pm the day prior (Wednesday) to the training on July 23 in Littlefield. The trainings will begin promptly at 1pm at the Extension Offices (see addresses below). There is a \$60 fee for training materials. This is only the training; testing will be conducted at a separate time and location.

Future PAT Trainings:

- July 23 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue
- August 27 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- September 24 Littlefield Extension Office, Courthouse, Room B-5
- and October 22 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue

Texas A & M AgriLife Extension seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for any educational meetings. Please contact us to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service that you will require a week in advance of trainings.

See You On The Radio

IPM Radio Program Aglife 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.

West Plains IPM Update is a publication of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service IPM Program in Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Counties.

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