

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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

August 18, 2016
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Current Situation

Cotton ranges from 5 nodes above white flower to hard cut-out. Ideally cotton will be blooming out-the-top by now; because we have reached that point when the odds of a bloom developing into a quality/yield contributing boll will drop to near zero over the next few days. In fact, the scouts and I noticed fields beginning to shed squares and some small bolls just this week. We normally see this a bit earlier. This is a normal process of the plant making a final adjustment in what the plant can naturally hold and mature out. Be sure though that this fruit shed is natural and not being induced by Lygus or bollworm in the case of conventional cotton. Most fields are generally pest free at this time. Continue to scout for another 15 to 20 days or so. By September 5th majority of cotton acres should have well over 400 heat units accumulated since 5 nodes above white flower stage. This gauge of time tells us that a crop is safe from most insect damage.

Irrigation has been where most questions are being posed. I will admit I get fairly conservative with irrigation as we move into the last days of August, and would rather err on the side of being too dry than too wet going into September. We have already had our chance of making quantity, now it is a matter of achieving quality through maturity. The last bolls set during this time need to be relatively stress free for 20 days (approximately September 10th). So as long as the plant recovers quickly from any wilting during a +90 degree day then those last bolls formed should mature properly. After 40-45 days (approximately September 30th) the plant can nearly go into permanent wilt and it should not have an impact on yield or quality. So bottom line – be very careful watering over the next few weeks. Call if questions.

Now, while we still have some soil moisture, is a good time to begin soil sampling for cotton root-knot nematode. Here is a good guide on how to sample: <http://lubbock.tamu.edu/files/2011/11/Nematodesampling.pdf>

UPCOMING EXTENSION MEETINGS

Fall Production Meeting

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office - Cochran County, 200-B W. Taylor, Morton

August 24, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

2 Laws/Regs and 1 IPM CEU's

Speakers are:

Kerry Siders- IPM Agent for Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb counties

Tiffany Dowell Lashmet- AgriLife Extension Agricultural Law Specialist

Please **RSVP** by August 16 by calling the Cochran Extension office at 806-266-5215.

Persons planning on attending can request the need for special accommodations relating to hearing impaired or any other special need by contacting our office at 806-266-5215 by August 16th

TURNROW MEETING

View Extension Cotton Variety Trial at the Seth Howard Farm

FM 303, ¼ mile north of Hwy 114 (west of Levelland)



August 25, 10 am

1 Hr General CEU

For more information
contact Wes Utley at
894-3157, or Kerry
Siders at 638-5635



West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute Annual Conference



The West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute will host their annual conference on Tuesday, Sept. 13, at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture, located at 1121 Canyon Lake Drive in Lubbock.

This year represents the 64th meeting of WTACI, an unincorporated organization of dealers, industry representatives, agricultural producers, scientists, educators, and agribusiness members who support education and research programs promoting safe and effective use of agricultural chemicals and protection and preservation of the area's natural resources.

Topics to be discussed at the conference include pesticide application and laws and regulations, unmanned aerial systems in ag, crop management strategies, EPA product registration process, legal issues, Old World Bollworm, and much more. A detailed list of presentations and speakers can be found at <http://wtaci.tamu.edu>.

Six CEUs for the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), and 6.5 CEUs for the Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) program will be available. CEUs for the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) are pending.

Pre-registration is available online at <http://wtaci.tamu.edu/Registration.html>. On-line registration fees are \$75 for conference attendees and \$300 for a booth and must be completed or postmarked by August 31. On-site registration will begin at 7 a.m. the day of the conference and will cost \$95 for attendees and \$325 for booth sponsors. Lunch will be provided as part of the registration fee.

Opportunities also exist to contribute to the WTACI Scholarship Fund, which has provided more than \$60,000 in scholarships to students majoring in agricultural fields at many Texas universities.

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Private Pesticide Applicators Training

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer the required private Pesticide Applicators Training (PAT) each month. 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 training individuals must call 806-894-3159 by 3pm the day prior to the training in Levelland or 806-385-4222 ext 235 by 3pm the day prior to the training in Littlefield, and 806-266-5215 for training in Morton. 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 required training. Testing will be conducted at a separate time and location.

Future PAT Trainings:

- August 24 Littlefield Extension Office, Courthouse, Room B-5
- September 22 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue
- October 27 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- November 17 Littlefield Extension Office, Courthouse, Room B-5
- and December 19 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 training.

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.

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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