

# WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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

Sept. 1, 2017

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## Current Situation

August ended as one the wettest in many years. In fact here in Levelland, based on National Weather Service observer records (me), we recorded 5.52" in August, 4.87" in July, 1.75" in June and only 0.08" in May. This wet, cloudy and cooler weather we have experienced really has slowed our heat unit accumulation to keep **cotton** moving at a good pace to mature out. Not until this week have we begun to get somewhat back on track in slowing the terminal growth and putting most plant resources into sizing bolls. I think with the current weather pattern we should finish this one out in good shape. If it cools down any more though and too quickly it may be a struggle to mature all that we have on the plant, which we need. Irrigation should be over for most, however, I know from one field to the next we have very different conditions due to variability in rainfall and physiological state of the cotton crop. Therefore I will not make any broad recommendations on watering now other than to say call me and we can visit. Cotton bollworms which have been present in both Bt and non-Bt cotton have begun to cycle out and adult moths are more attracted to laying eggs in the grain and forage sorghums or corn. Cotton aphids can be found more widespread in cotton, but overall numbers have levelled off if not decreased in general. Keep scouting for another week or so.

In **peanuts** we continue to closely monitor foliage diseases. Those fields treated with a good fungicide before August 10<sup>th</sup> are still relatively clean where we have managed irrigation around rains, and limited a constant moist environment. Try to keep peanuts freshened up on a regular basis. A 1" irrigation to prevent severe wilt is necessary to maintain vine health till harvest.

**Grain sorghum** acres are generally entering into boot stage now. Those fields which are past flowering and into soft dough should monitor headworms. It has mostly been the corn earworm larvae we are seeing. The sugarcane aphid continues to be found in more fields everyday moving to the west. Continue to scout frequently and treat when necessary. Treatments with Transform and Sivanto have been successful when good coverage is achieved. Call if questions.

## Private Pesticide Applicators Training 2017 Cochran, Hockley and Lamb Counties

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer the required private Pesticide Applicators Training (PAT) in Morton, Levelland and Littlefield throughout 2017. 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 806-894-3159 by 3pm the day prior (Wednesday) to the trainings in Levelland; or 806-266-5215 by 3pm the day prior to any trainings 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:

- September 14 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- October 19 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- November 6 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



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](mailto:ksiders@tamu.edu) (E-mail),



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# West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute Annual Conference



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

This year represents the 65th 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.

A detailed list of presentations and speakers can be found at <http://wtaci.tamu.edu>.

Seven CEUs for the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), and 7 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. Booth sponsors have various levels available. 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.

The West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute (WTACI) is 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. For more information visit <http://wtaci.tamu.edu>.

# COCHRAN COUNTY

— BIENNIAL FARM FAIR —

SEPT 13TH



COUNTY  
AG BARN

9:00 AM

LUNCH PROVIDED BY  
RIVER SMITH'S

DOOR  
PRIZES

FOR BOOTH RESERVATIONS, CONTACT  
NATALIE SILHAN, 806-266-5215