
August 2, 2016 - Volume XXIV - Number 10

Crop Management Newsletter

News about Crop Management for producers in Dawson, Lynn and surrounding Counties.

Thanks to the sponsors and the gins who support the Dawson/Lynn IPM Program
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Special Report

Sugarcane Aphid is here and EXPLODING

On Friday (July 29), late afternoon, I checked a milo field east of Tahoka. I encountered SCA in populations of about 10 - 20 on about 20% of the plants. Each little colony had a winged adult (alate) with it. There was very little honeydew, but there were a few leaves with some shiny specks on them.

Yesterday, Monday August 1, I went back to check this field again and the SCA had exploded over the weekend. Where there were 10 - 20 aphids there were now 100's and even thousands on some leaves with 100 percent of the plants infested to some degree. There were areas with heavy honeydew. The larger infestations were in mid-canopy. The field is being treated.

I found a single lady beetle adult - which even if mad can't keep up. In our area, we are not seeing very many beneficial insects or spiders in the scouting program fields (cotton or milo).

The message: watch those SCA populations closely as they will EXPLODE, especially with nothing to keep them in check.

Refer to the July 8th ICM newsletter for an article on Managing the SCA on the High Plains.

To keep up to date on happenings with the Sugarcane Aphid go to the blog at: <http://txscan.blogspot.com/>