



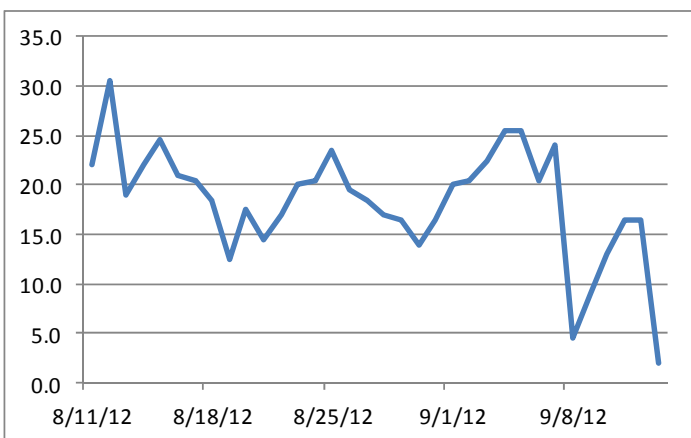
Gaines County IPM Newsletter

Volume V, No. 9

General Situation

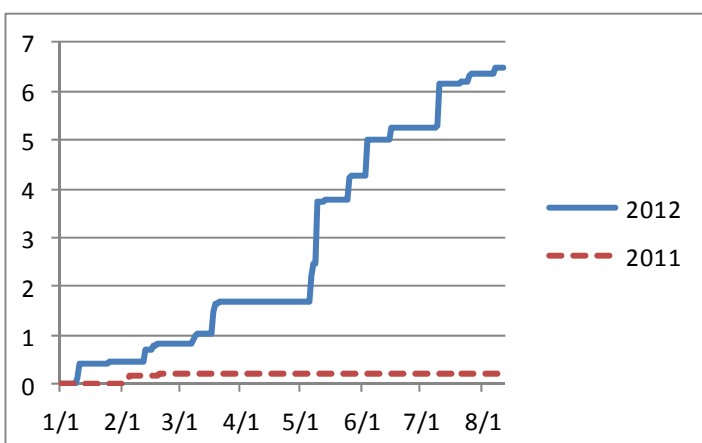
Over the last month, the crop has been on a roller coaster ride in regards to Heat Unit (H.U.) accumulation. The graph below shows the number of H.U. per day.

Number of H.U. Accumulated Per Day



In regards to rainfall, we have been slowly adding to our rainfall total for the year. However, rainfall continues to be very spotty within the county. For example during last nights storms, areas of the county received over 1 1/2 inches of rain, while other areas had traceable amounts of rain.

Accumulated Rainfall Totals for 2011 & 2012



Hail has also been mixed in with some of the storms. A cotton field west of Seminole was completely defoliated, while the adjoining peanut field had significant leaf loss.



Cotton defoliated by Hail



Hail damaged peanuts.

Kurtomathrips morrilli



Kurtomathrips are still being found in cotton fields throughout Gaines County. Small areas of infestation are quickly spreading throughout the whole field within a weeks worth of time. This rapid spread throughout the field usually occurs right after the water is cutoff on the field. However, this cool wet weather will likely negatively impact Kurtomathrips populations and we should start to see a decline in Kurtomathrips populations.

Leaf Spot in Peanuts



Leaf spot is a concern at this time. This cool wet weather is conducive for leaf spot development. Leaf spot can often be confused with herbicide spray. Farmers have been diligent about using spider sprayers to spot spray weeds in peanut fields. Often the herbicide spray can hit the leaves and can cause spotting on the leaves that looks similar to leaf spots. Look for spores within the lesion to confirm that it is leaf spot. Before applying fungicides, check the label for pre-harvest intervals.



Verticillium wilt & Salinity Issues In Peanuts



Verticillium wilt is becoming more evident in peanut fields. Verticillium wilt clogs the vascular system of the peanut plants.



In the picture above, the three peanut petioles on the right have clogged vascular systems, confirming that they are infected with Verticillium wilt. The peanut petiole on the left does not have a clogged vascular system, confirming that that plant is not infected with Verticillium wilt.

We are also seeing a lot of salinity issues in peanuts. The salts accumulate at the edge of the leaf, causing the leaf edges to become necrotic and die.



Sclerotinia blight In Peanuts



Sclerotinia blight is characterized in early stages by non-persistent small white tufts of cottony-like fungal growth at leaf axils on the stems near the ground line. The fungus spreads rapidly during cool (65-70 degree) wet weather. Later stages of the disease show up as bleaching and severe shredding of the stem accompanied by the production of many small, black, irregular-shaped sclerotia that resemble mouse droppings in size, shape and color. Before applying fungicides check the label for pre-harvest intervals.

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