



## Gaines County IPM Newsletter

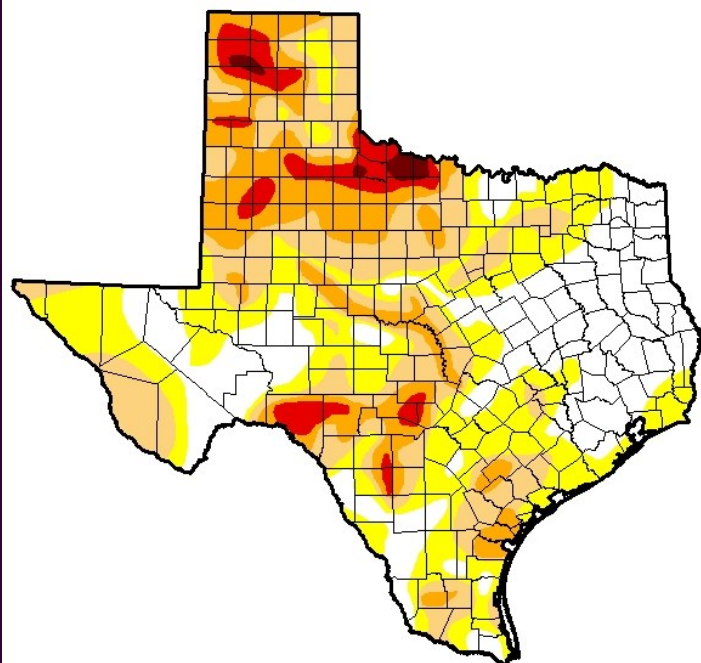
Volume VII, No. 1

### Newsletter Topics:

- **General Situation**
- **Nematode Management and Variety Selection**
- **Soil Sampling Program**
- **Upcoming Meetings Posted on the Gaines County IPM Blog—Subscribe Today!**
- **List of Upcoming Meetings**

### General Situation

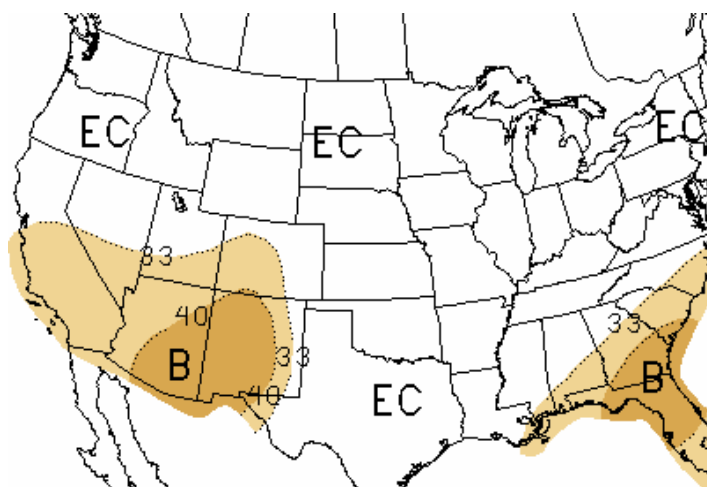
Gaines County has received little to no winter moisture. The [National Drought Mitigation Center](#) is currently reporting the southeastern corner of Gaines County to be in the Abnormally Dry category, while the rest of the county is in the Moderate and Severe Drought categories.



#### Intensity:



The [NOAA/National Weather Service](#) is forecasting us as having an equal chance of above, below, or normal precipitation for the three month period of January, February and March 2014.



**EC MEANS EQUAL CHANCES FOR A, N, B  
A MEANS ABOVE  
N MEANS NORMAL  
B MEANS BELOW**

Therefore, we will all be praying that the odds will fall in our favor and we will have above normal precipitation!

### Nematode Management and Cotton Variety Selection

Depending on population levels, nematodes can have a drastic impact on yields. When selecting cotton varieties for fields infested with nematodes, producers should select varieties that are either tolerant or resistant to the species of nematode present in the field. Over the past couple of years, the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has conducted large plot on-farm trials in Gaines County to determine which varieties are susceptible and which varieties are tolerant or resistant to nematodes. In 2013,

a trial was conducted in a field with very heavy nematode pressure. The following varieties were the top performing varieties in that location: Stoneville 5458B2F, Deltapine 174RF, NexGen 1511B2RF, FiberMax 2011GT, Stoneville 4946GLB2, and Phytogen 367WRF. The full results of this trial can be viewed on the web at <http://gaines.agrilife.org/publications/2013-cotton-research-trial-results/>.

How do nematodes impact yield?

Nematodes are small microscope organisms that live in the soil and invade plant roots. Female nematodes feed on and manipulate the cells within the cotton root to support the production of eggs. As the season progresses and the females grows, galls become visible to the human eye on the roots.



The amount of damage sustained depends on the number of nematode galls on the root, the size of the root system when the nematodes first began infecting the root. The nematode galls prevent the regular uptake of water and nutrients from the soil. Therefore, even though there may be adequate water and nutrients available to the cotton plants, the plants are unable to use it due to the damage caused by the nematodes.

Over the past three years Gaines County has received below average rainfall. The lack of rainfall has greatly impacted our

crops. Additionally, yields in some cotton fields have been further impacted due to the fact that producers may not have taken advantage of the tolerant and resistant cotton varieties that are currently on the market. Several seed companies are bringing new varieties to the market with improved resistance to nematodes. Information on these varieties and other nematode management options will be presented at the Sandyland Ag Conference that is scheduled for February 20, 2014 at the Gaines County Civic Building. For further information on nematode management and variety selection, please feel free to contact me.

### **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service – Soil Sampling Program**

Soil sampling is always important for a fertility management program. If you are interested in having your soils sampled please contact Tommy Doederlein, at (806) 872-3444 (office) or at 806-759-7030 (cell). Tommy is the Extension Agent – IPM for Dawson and Lynn Counties, however, he has agreed to work with the Gaines County IPM Program in providing soil sampling for Gaines County Producers. The soil samples collected can be used for both fertility and salinity analysis. The samples will be sent to the Texas AgriLife Extension Service's Soil, Water and Forage Testing Laboratory in College Station for analysis. The soil testing results and fertility recommendations will be sent directly to the producer.

### **Pricing Includes The Following:**

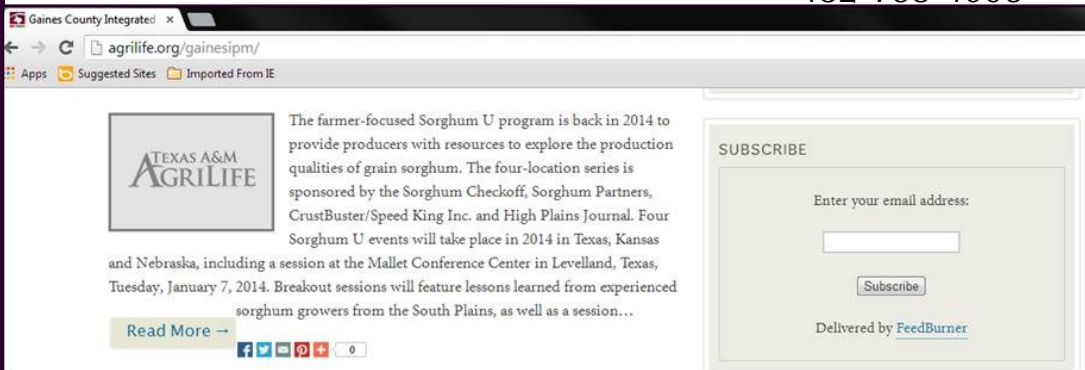
- Cost of the sampling service will be \$50 per field, for fields that are 160 acres or less in size.
  - Fields larger than 160 acres will be charged at a rate of \$0.3125 per acre for the sampling.
  - There will be an additional charge of \$15 minimum if a field is to be sampled as more than one management zone based on crop planted, soil type, landscape position and/or yield zones.

- Cost of the laboratory analysis you request will be added to the sampling costs.
  - Cost of the laboratory analysis range from \$10 to \$74 per sample.
  - For example, the Routine plus Micronutrients and Residual Nitrogen analysis costs \$22. When the Detailed Salinity analysis is included the cost is \$37.
- There will be an additional charge of \$0.50 per mile for Tommy's travel from the Dawson County office to the first field he samples that day and from the last field he samples that day back to the Dawson County office. The travel cost will be divided between all producers who had their fields sampled that day.

### Upcoming Meetings Posted on the Gaines County IPM Blog—Subscribe Today!

I will post all upcoming meetings on the [Gaines County Integrated Pest Management Blog](http://agrilife.org/gainesipm/). In order to receive the notification of these upcoming meetings, you have to subscribe to the blog.

To subscribe click on the *Gaines County Integrated Pest Management Blog* link <http://agrilife.org/gainesipm/> Next, scroll down on the page until you see the SUBSCRIBE box on the right side of the screen (see the picture below). Next, enter your email address and click on the "Subscribe" button.



### List of Upcoming Meetings:

- **January 16**—[High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show at the Amarillo Civic Center](#)
- **January 21**—South Plains Ag Conference and Trade Show in Brownfield, TX. Contact 806-637-4060
- **January 22**—Southern Mesa Ag Conference in Lamesa, TX. Contact: 806-872-3444
- **January 23**—Caprock Crop Production Conference in Muncy, TX. Contact Floyd or Crosby AgriLife Offices at 806-675-2347 or 806-983-4912, respectively.
- **January 24**—Llano Estacado Cotton Conference in Muleshoe, TX. Contact: Bailey County AgriLife Office 806-272-4583
- **February 10**—Hale/Swisher Crop Conference at the Ollie Liner Center. Contact 806-291-5267
- **February 20**—Sandyland Ag Conference in Seminole, TX. Contact: Gaines County AgriLife Office 432-758-4006

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Gaines County IPM Blog  
<http://agrilife.org/gainesipm/>

Gaines County Website  
<http://gaines.agrilife.org/>

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