

CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

August 12, 2016

Volume 3, Issue 8

If you would like to be added to our newsletter mailing list please email tara.johnson@ag.tamu.edu THANK YOU

UPCOMING EVENTS
Tri-County Crop Tour 9/13
Monsanto Field Day 9/19
4-H Dove Hunt 9/20
Phylogen Field Day 9/27

GENERAL SITUATION

It sure gets old saying “ it’s hot and dry, we sure need a rain,” but that is where we remain. Most folks have not had a significant rain in 7 to 9 weeks. Little pop-up showers have settled the dust here and there off and on in July, but were rarely significant. Surprisingly this crop looks a lot better than it should. Not as good as it could with 1.5 to 2 inches last month, it could be a lot worse. Hopefully the projections for this weekend will come true.

COTTON

As I mentioned, this crop looks much better than it should for as hot and dry as it has been. I have been saying for 3 weeks now that we are going to see a lot of fruit hit the ground and it is just now starting in a few places. Of course there are fields out there that are finished and have been for a while, but many that can use a rain to resume growth. Most everything is past cutout except for some late planted irrigated fields, these fields will benefit most from a rain. Insect pressure is almost nonexistent at this time. I have been checking for stinkbugs quite a bit this week since we started cutting sorghum. So far I have not found much of anything, but I did get a call this morning to go check a field out west so we might have some. Keep an eye out.

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TURNROW MEETINGS	
Tuesday, August 16	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, August 17	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop
Tuesday, August 23	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, August 24	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop

FINAL BLOOM DATE

Historically, 8/26 is a good safe bet on about the last day to expect a bloom to make it to a mature, harvestable boll by the end of October. If temperatures remain warmer than normal we may be able to extend that period 10 to 14 days. Be careful however, trying to finish out top bolls at the expense of the bottom crop.

TRI-COUNTY CROP TOUR

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

2:00 PM

MEET AT Midkiff Community Center
SOCIAL & MEAL TO FOLLOW TOUR

CORN/SORGHUM

Sorghum is being cut right now and not doing too bad. I have not heard many yields, but some of the dryland has cut 2500 to 3000 pounds. Not bad with no inputs, but would be better with a higher price. Sugarcane aphid is building in the later planted sorghum, keep a close eye on these fields, they will lower yields and make harvest a problem if not impossible. Also watch your haygrazer, it is susceptible to SCA as well.

Corn will be coming off any day now with pretty good yield prospects this year. Could have used a little more rain like everything else, but in general no problems to speak of.

Weather Data

	May 10	May 20	June 1	June 10
Daily ET	.154 in/day	.154 in/day	.154 in/day	.154 in/day
Previous 7 day	2.057 in	2.057 in	2.057 in	2.057 in
Total water use	13.81 inches	11.90 inches	7.03 inches	4.68 inches

HEAT UNITS

Heat units averaged 26.6 per day this past week and 27.25 per day the past two weeks. Heat units since 5/10, 5/20, 6/1, and 6/10 are compared with last year and the five year average in the table below. We are accumulating heat units at a near record pace which is not necessarily a good thing. Cotton grows best at temperatures between 65 and 90 degrees. As both the high and low temperatures climb, it puts more stress on the plant.

DATE	5/10	5/20	6/1	6/10
2016	1148	1053	848	729
2015	940	839	733	581
5 Year AVG	1171	1061	866	686