

CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT



July 17, 2020

Volume 7, Issue 9

If you would like to be added to our newsletter mailing list please
email
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THANK YOU

There will be no Turnrow Meeting on Wednesday July, 22nd in Midkiff

GCJLA Dove Hunt—Wednesday September 16, 2020
(please register by September 10)

ST. LAWRENCE PEST MANAGEMENT
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COTTON

This crop is continuing to make a little more progress each week as more and more fields begin to bloom. Those fields which have good water are sitting around 6-7 NAWF which is not great but not too bad considering this year. Unfortunately quite a few fields are starting to bloom at 3-5 NAWF. These plants are already at cutout and their potential will be very limited. This crop is looking more like a good dryland year.



A couple of pests have been on the rise this past week with both stinkbugs and spider mites causing damage. A field has been treated and another is being watched closely for stinkbugs. Damage can be found in both but the insects are not being found. We generally suggest treatment when 20% of bolls have internal damage and stinkbugs are present. However, I have been bitten by waiting for the bugs to show up in high yielding cotton and find more damage at the end of the year than I expected. That being said, I still like to see them in the field in most cases before I treat. Stinkbugs have also been found sporadically throughout all three counties, but numbers have been very low.



Our second pest this week has been spider mites. We have had little spots on a plant or two around the area for about a month but over the past 7-10 days they have flared up in several fields along CR 150 in St. Lawrence. A few spider mites can be found in most all fields throughout St. Lawrence. These fields should be monitored closely, as they can be found in both dryland and irrigated cotton. The dryland fields present the

biggest problem since not treating a heavy infestation will cause leaves, squares, and bolls to shed leaving you with nothing. On the other hand we have to have significant rain and soon to make and crop. It is basically how confident are you that it will rain. Products listed for use on spider mites include Abamectin which has many generics, Oberon, Portal, and Zeal. The Abamectin would be the least expensive but may not have quite as good of control. Be sure and use as much water as possible for thorough coverage. Avoid products like pyrethroids which will only suppress the mites and kill off your beneficials.

Fortunately our weed control has remained good this season as most fields remain clean. As much as everyone hates to spend anymore money this summer, keeping weeds down now will help prevent you fighting them next summer. Also, remember that July 31st is the last day to apply Xtendimax, Fexapan, and Engenia over cotton.

CORN/SORGHUM

From a corn standpoint things are just slowing down. Every field that I have looked at should have the water turned off by now even with the dry conditions. This crop is just drying down at this point.

As this crop dries down it reaches physiological maturity at what is known as a “black layer.” This is when you can scrape the tip of the kernel and see a bit of black on the end. The same applies to sorghum. This “black layer” would be the same as slicing a boll and seeing the black seed coat on the seed.

Sorghum is all over the place from soft dough to heads stuck in the boot that most likely will not emerge. Fields that have pollinated and are now making grain obviously have smaller heads but there is something. A few stinkbugs and headworms are showing up. We do not want to put much in this crop but many times it pays to control stinkbugs in sorghum before they move into cotton.



Concho Valley/St. Lawrence Audio Updates

Haley Kennedy in Runnels and Tom Green Counties and myself are currently recording a weekly audio pest report. One of the ways to receive this Concho/St. Lawrence Audio Pest Report is through a text alert. Here is what you do:

You can sign up for text by going to: <https://www.texasinsects.org/signup-texts.html> and fill out the signup box for “Concho St. Lawrence”

It will ask whether you are a producer, consultant, industry, or other. We sure would appreciate this information to know who all is listening. Previous audio files can be found at <https://www.texasinsects.org/southern-high-plains-pest-news.html>

TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, July 21

8:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop

Wednesday, July 22

Will Not Meet

Tuesday, July 28

8:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop

Wednesday, July 29

8:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop