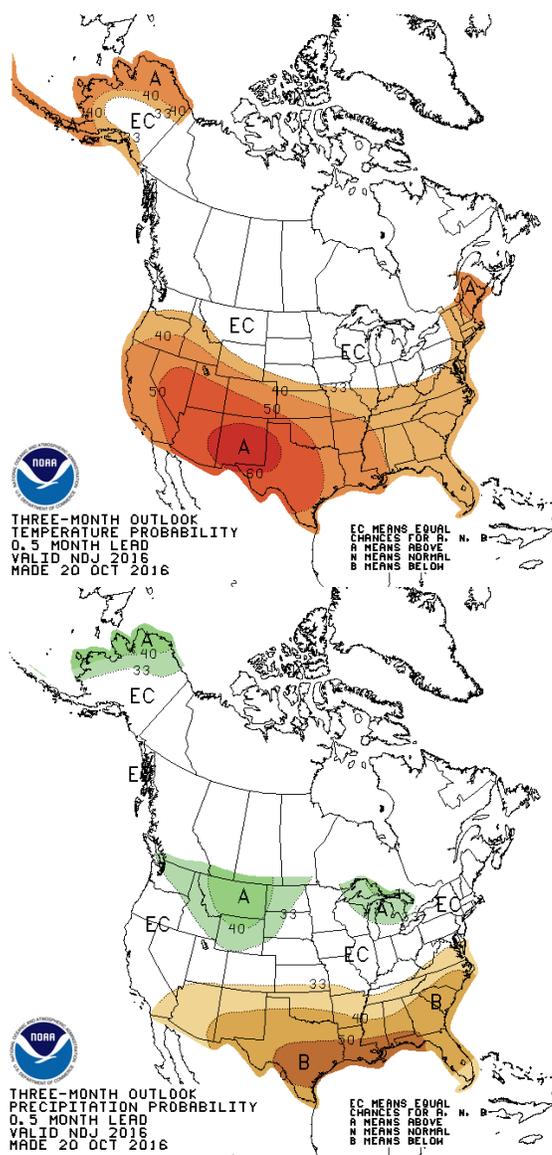


Plains Pest Management

OCTOBER 21, 2016

General Status

As we truly look forward to winding this growing season down and plink away at harvest, a lot of hindrances cling stubbornly in our way like speed bumps on the way to payday. From unyielding pest pressures and pest pressures of odd sorts, to late season weeds, to a cotton crop that does not want to come to an end there have been plenty of oddity issues with simple explanations to keep us from transitioning smoothly into a normal fall harvest pattern. These issues have not been unsurmountable or devastating problems, but rather annoyances that demand attention and unfortunately, they have come with some additional expenditure in already tough economic times. In the next few weeks we will be trying to tie a pretty a bow around the 2016 crop year as we can manage from here on before we start making plans for 2017.



Corn

Since the release of our last newsletter, even the latest of our PPM corn fields have moved past economic insect injury and harvest is well underway. With a few exceptions both on the good and bad side, the majority of our early corn yields have been mildly disappointing to around average with high heat and limited pumping capacity during critical reproductive stages being the main culprit to capping much yield potential without fully devastating the crop. There are some slightly increased hopes for the later planted corn as the combines start moving toward these fields. These later fields did experience the bollworm 'sink' and the 'nickel and dime' damage associated with that very heavy pest population through September and an increase in disease pressure that was never fully economic but still left its mark on our fields.



Late planted Hale corn field checked this week for any late FAW pressure, just in case. FAW moth numbers have been high for October.



A late Southern Hale sorghum field this week.

pattern at some point), and the attractiveness of young wheat when compared to hard dough sorghum for the fall armyworms. While the sugarcane aphid populations finally seem suppressed, there are still active colonies that will remain a threat until harvest is complete.

Sorghum

Our PPM sorghum ranges from in the elevator to hard dough. The last of our late sorghum fields are still at risk for headworms (mostly fall armyworms at this time) and sugarcane aphids. Both of these pest populations are still active and could be a threat to this sorghum. This could be unlikely given the predator populations, crop stage, calendar

date (assuming we will enter a full fall weather



A still active SCA colony in Hale this

Alfalfa

Things have quieted down for the last alfalfa cutting following a major green clover worm outbreak that threatened all of our PPM alfalfa and other fields in Swisher. We did learn that Besiege and Prevathon work well on this pest at solid rates. Today we are watching a moderate population of blister beetles just to make sure they do not spoil the last cutting.

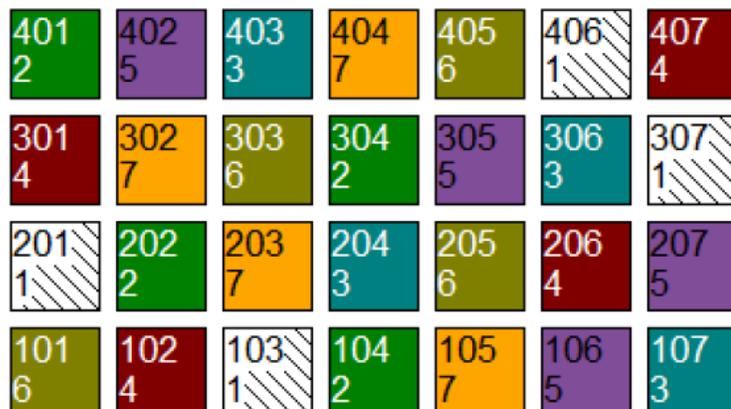
Cotton

The most pressing issue, finally, are cotton harvest aids. Our already slightly late cotton was set back badly by the cool, wet weather of early September. Most fields have had a lot of regrowth or can be considered growthy, depending upon the amount of boll load that was present when the rains started and the cut-out date. Either way, these fields have plenty of growth energy to burn still today. This is making our harvest aid decisions, always a bit more art than science, a bit more frustrating this season. We had recommended quite a bit of managed maturity treatments over the past month with good effect on both rank cotton and cotton regrowth, but as a general rule, the crop progress has been slow despite better than average October temperatures.

The best way to highlight what is happening in the field is to share the 13 DAT results from our 2016 Cotton Harvest Aid Efficacy Trial located southwest of Cotton Center. This trial was small plot trial placed on decent yield potential irrigated cotton that was still very lush due to the weather patterns, having received over 4 inches of rain through September. The trial is a small plot CRBD trial with 4 replications. All treatments were applied on October 6th, when the field was only at 20% open boll as to be highlighted at 14 DAT for the Hale County Cotton Field Day held on October 20th. Please note that like most area irrigated fields, it was not ready for harvest aid despite the late October date. All data should be interpreted as relative to that knowledge.

Trial Map Treatment Description

| Trt | Code | Description |
|-----|------|---|
| 1 | CHK | Untreated Check |
| 2 | | Prep 32 FL OZ/A;NIS 0.25 % V/V |
| 3 | | Prep 36 FL OZ/A;Aim 1 FL OZ/A;COC 1 % V/V |
| 4 | | Prep 36 FL OZ/A;Folex 8 FL OZ/A;NIS 0.25 % V/V |
| 5 | | Prep 36 FL OZ/A;Sharpen 1 FL OZ/A;AMS 1 % V/V;MSO 1 % V/V |
| 6 | | Prep 36 FL OZ/A;Display 0.8 FL OZ/A;COC 1 % V/V |
| 7 | | Prep 48 FL OZ/A;NIS 0.25 % V/V |



The treatment list chosen for this trial is not a full list of cotton harvest aid options, but was rather chosen to be likely options considered by area producers to combat lush cotton conditions while preparing fields for harvest in the most economical method. For a full list of harvest aid options, please consult the 2016 Harvest Aid Guide available online.

| | | | |
|-----------|--|--|---|
| Untreated | <u>Prep @ 32 oz./ac + NIS @ 0.25 % v/v</u> | <u>Prep @ 36 oz./ac + AIM @ 1 oz./ac + COC @ 1 % v/v</u> | <u>Prep @ 36 oz./ac + Folex @ 8 oz./ac + NIS @ 0.25 % v/v</u> |
| \$0.00 | ≈ \$4.62 | ≈ \$10.08 | ≈ \$8.64 |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <u>Prep @ 36 oz./ac + Sharpen @ 1 oz./ac + AMS @ 1 % v/v + MSO @ 1 % v/v</u> | <u>Prep @ 36 oz./ac + Display @ 0.8 oz./ac + COC @ 1 % v/v</u> | <u>Prep @ 48 oz./ac + NIS @ 0.25 % v/v</u> |
| ≈ \$12.73 | ≈ \$10.93 | ≈ \$6.73 |

| Description | % open boll | % defoliated | % green leaf | % stuck leaf | regrowth |
|---|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Rating Date | Oct-19-2016 | Oct-19-2016 | Oct-19-2016 | Oct-19-2016 | Oct-19-2016 |
| Rating Unit | % | % | % | % | % |
| Trt-Eval Interval | 13 DA-A | 13 DA-A | 13 DA-A | 13 DA-A | 13 DA-A |
| Trt Treatment | | | | | |
| No. Name Description Rate Unit Appl Code | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 Untreated Check not treated | 43.9 c | 4.8 e | 95.0 a | 0.3 c | 1.78 ab |
| 2 Prep NIS 32 fl oz/a A 0.25 % v/v A | 62.2 b | 22.2 d | 77.8 b | 0.0 c | 1.34 ab |
| 3 Prep Aim COC 36 fl oz/a A 1 fl oz/a A 1 % v/v A | 72.5 ab | 83.4 ab | 14.3 d | 2.3 b | 0.97 ab |
| 4 Prep Folex NIS 36 fl oz/a A 8 fl oz/a A 0.25 % v/v A | 80.4 ab | 73.0 b | 26.0 d | 1.0 c | 2.33 ab |
| 5 Prep Sharpen AMS MSO 36 fl oz/a A 1 fl oz/a A 1 % v/v A 1 % v/v A | 87.5 a | 91.8 a | 4.4 e | 3.8 a | 0.61 b |
| 6 Prep Display COC 36 fl oz/a A 0.8 fl oz/a A 1 % v/v A | 71.9 ab | 81.4 ab | 16.6 d | 2.0 b | 2.79 a |
| 7 Prep NIS 48 fl oz/a A 0.25 % v/v A | 75.1 ab | 39.5 c | 60.2 c | 0.3 c | 1.88 ab |
| LSD P=.05 | 13.71 - 17.49 | 7.28 - 8.78 | 7.25 - 7.53 | 0.77 | 1.003 - 1.453 |
| Standard Deviation | 6.79t | 5.18t | 5.27t | 0.52 | 0.141t |
| CV | 11.8t | 10.6t | 13.23t | 38.28 | 34.43t |
| Bartlett's X2 | 4.045 | 6.539 | 6.188 | 1.276 | 6.675 |
| F(Bartlett's X2) | 0.671 | 0.368 | 0.402 | 0.866 | 0.352 |
| Skewness | -0.5911 | -0.5428 | 0.4614 | 0.6984 | 0.6523 |
| Kurtosis | 0.0844 | -1.1639 | -1.2013 | -0.6708 | -0.0948 |
| Replicate F | 1.805 | 0.087 | 0.067 | 0.176 | 0.210 |
| Replicate Prob(F) | 0.1824 | 0.9663 | 0.9767 | 0.9109 | 0.8884 |
| Treatment F | 6.812 | 76.355 | 81.716 | 28.059 | 3.360 |
| Treatment Prob(F) | 0.0007 | 0.0001 | 0.0001 | 0.0001 | 0.0212 |



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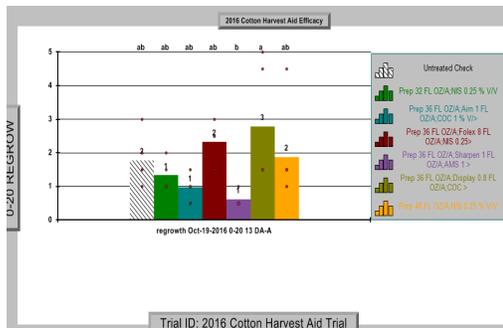
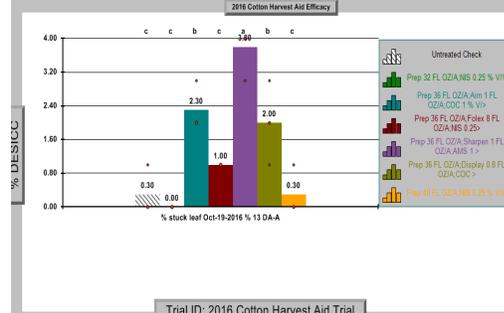
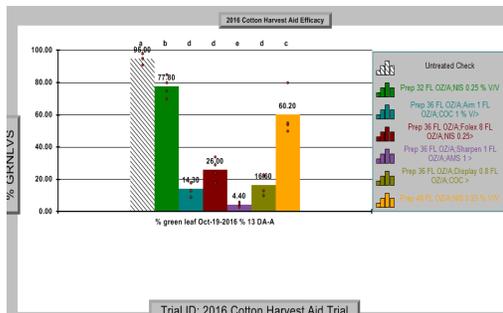
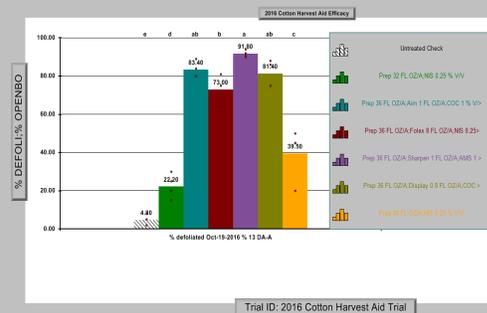
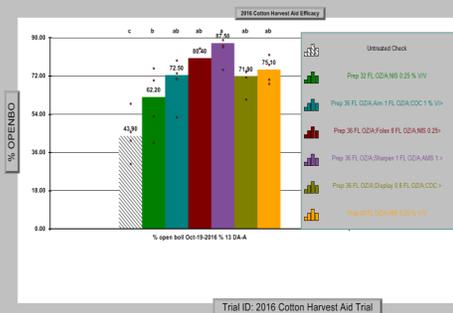
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We're on the air...

*"Tuesday's with Blayne" from
6:30—7:00 AM on the
HPRN network on 1090
AM KVOP-Plainview.*

*"IPM Wednesdays" from 1:00-
2:30 PM on The FoxTalk
950 Ag Show. FoxTalk
950 AM - Lubbock.*

*"IPM Report with the Bruiser"
from 7:06-7:15 PM on
1470 AM KDHN -
Dimmit.*



These results indicate to me that there is a lot of energy left in these cotton plants that still want to grow off hard. Yet we are only 10 to 11 days away from our average killing freeze date. We cannot afford to let the plants grow away too much or we risk some serious freeze

damage to the crop. Harvest aids, which are either synthetic plant hormones or desiccants, applied to cotton trying to actively grow is a little like the plant stepping on the gas while we step on the break. To really get this crop harvest aid treated, without being too early and adversely damaging our fiber quality yet not allowing the plant to grow until a killing freeze ruins most of it, the plants either need to ease off the gas through a long hot fall or we need to stomp on the break harder and perhaps multiple times. With the look of this crop, I certainly suggest at least getting something out ahead of any potential freeze to avoid the most problems.

Blayne Reed