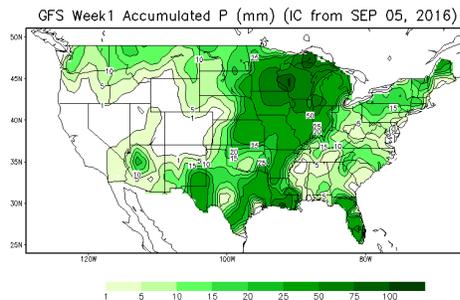
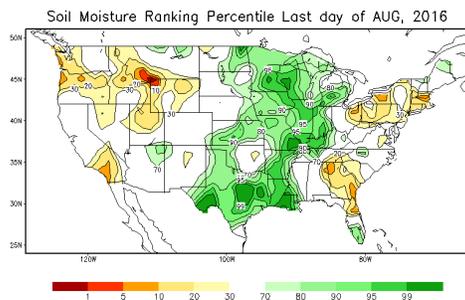
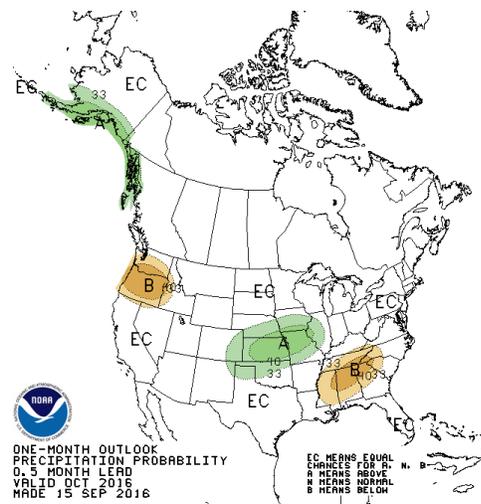
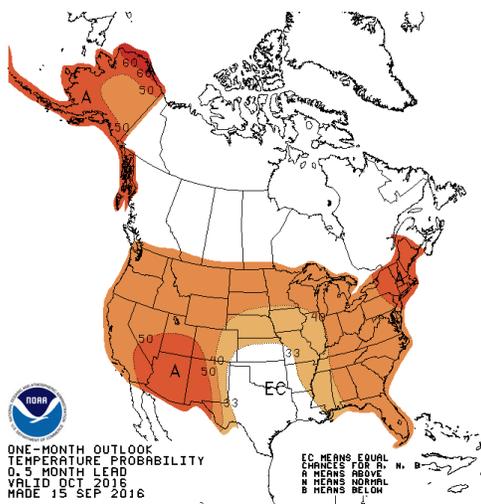


SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

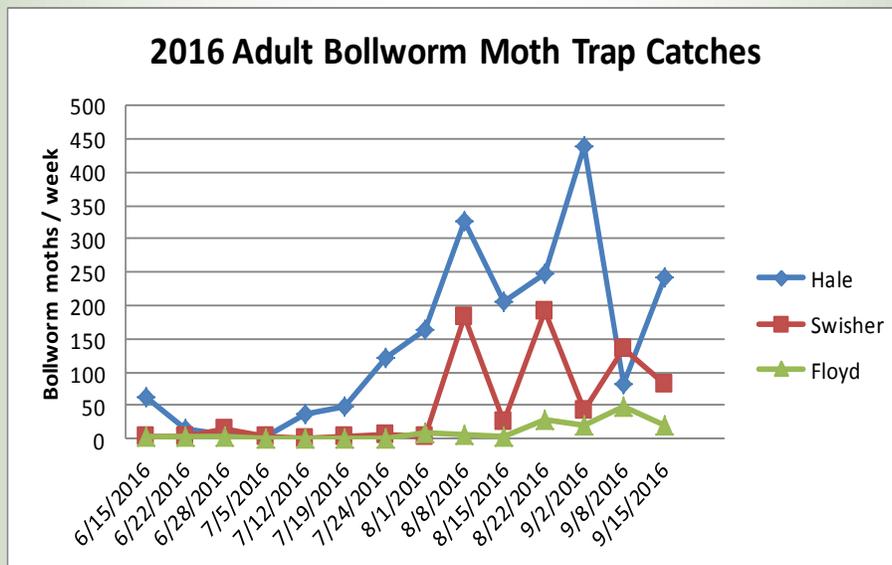
General Status

For the second time in three weeks, I must get this weekly newsletter out without getting across all of our Plains Pest Management scouting program acres due to rainy weather and muddy roads. Despite the calendar reading the middle of September, getting our summer crop fields scouted as soon as possible remains highly important. We have by my estimation at least 1/3 of our cotton still at risk for bollworms still flooding into the area, 3/4 of our sorghum still at risk for these same headworms and every acre of sorghum not yet harvested having to deal with the sugarcane aphid, and finally our late corn at serious risk to plant diseases while these late corn acres absorb the brunt of the bollworm / headworm / corn earworm egg lay as a 'sink crop' taking more damage than we would like to see despite the cannibalistic nature of the bollworm. These pest issues are still overshadowing the known factor of regrowth and / or growthy cotton that several weeks of cool and rainy weather have gifted us. If we can ever get the economically threatening pests behind us, we should be running into harvest aid decisions without being able to look up.



Cotton

All of our program cotton fields have reached cut-out but there is not much change from last week's stage report, except for a few more open bolls and an increase in verticillium ratings. The bollworm threat to fields still at risk for damage remains the focus of our cotton interest this week. Of those at risk fields that we have been able to scout this week, our egg lay ranged from 0 bollworm eggs per acre up to 48,250 eggs per acre. Most fields ranged between 0 and 5,000 eggs. The surviving and establishing in-field worm population increased this week as the predators seem to be slipping or moving to easier prey in the sorghum and letting more worms come through. We only had to add 1 more field to our September bollworm treatment list so far. This field held 14,475 small and medium sized worms feeding on both junk fruit and harvestable bolls with 24,125 eggs per acre yet to hatch. Most non-*Bt* and at risk fields are showing 726 to 3,375 small to medium worms this week but a fair number held no worms or eggs that we could find. We are still watching for stink bugs in our fields, and fields have been treated for stink bugs in Crosby County recently, but our highest population was at 1 stink bug / 13.5 row feet.



These photos were taken by Dr. Suhas Vyavhare, District 2 Cotton Entomologist, from a Swisher County Cotton field and site of a joint bollworm research project on September 12, 2016. These photos show a fresh egg lain on a stem, a small worm feeding on a dropped bloom tag, junk fruit fed on by a small worm, and a medium worm starting on harvestable fruit.

Regrowth, Rank Cotton, and Managed Maturity

Most producers' mindsets have already turned toward harvest aids and shutting this crop down following this cool, wet weather. This cannot be a priority for me today with the pests issues still abound but it is rattling around in the back of my mind. Because I feel it will be a good fit for a larger amount of acres this year, I will reprint the results from a Managed Maturity trial we ran in 2014:

Reprinted from the Plains Pest Management Newsletter September 11, 2015:

I should state up front that I do not feel this is for every acre of area cotton. There is even a chance that if applied to the wrong acres in the wrong situation, it could do more harm than good. That being said, I feel there will be many more acres in need of this type of management this season than an 'average' season. I also feel that if the field is truly late and likely to run out of developmental time, has a bunch of junk fruit up top, or has a huge amount of regrowth, a treatment of this type can save quite a bit in terms of fiber quality and ensure the field gets out in a timely manner. So, if you feel you have a cotton field or two that is late, lush, rank, is still trying to put on fruit that will never make, or can be considered 'rank' by any other definition, please continue on with this section.

What we are talking about is a very, very light application of Aim at 3/8 of an ounce with COC at 1% v/v as a conditioning treatment (never to be considered as a standalone harvest aid treatment). Our friends at FMC brought this idea to us several years ago. Like most of us, I thought it sounded crazy to apply a kill all herbicide OVT of our cotton but we had a ridiculously rank field the first year I learned about Managed Maturity with Aim. We tried it and really both myself and my producer really liked the results. The next season we conducted a large demonstration plot type trial and proved its success in the right situation to me. Ever since then, Managed Maturity has been in my harvest aid tool kit for late season management of rank cotton fields. Last season we had more than a fair share of these rank fields. I found that the idea was still new to many of the area producers. So, we conducted a properly replicated public trial to both highlight what this could do for the dollars invested and to properly document the results.

Trial Map Treatment Description		
Trt	Trt Code	Trt Description
1	MM	Prep 32 FL OZ/A;NIS 0.25 % V/V;Aim 0.375 FL OZ/A;COC 1 % V/V
2		Prep 32 FL OZ/A;NIS 0.25 % V/V;Untreated Check not treated
3	MM	Prep 32 FL OZ/A;Aim 1 FL OZ/A;COC 1 % V/V;Aim 0.375 FL OZ/A;COC 1 % V/V
4		Prep 32 FL OZ/A;Aim 1 FL OZ/A;COC 1 % V/V;Untreated Check not treated

401 2 A1 B2	402 1 A1 B1	403 4 A2 B2	404 3 A2 B1
301 1 A1 B1	302 4 A2 B2	303 3 A2 B1	304 2 A1 B2
201 4 A2 B2	202 2 A1 B2	203 1 A1 B1	204 3 A2 B1
101 3 A2 B1	102 1 A1 B1	103 2 A1 B2	104 4 A2 B2

The following is my summary copied from my official Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Result Report of the trial and associated graphs for you to decide if you have a field that this type of treatment can help.

Summary

Trial was established as a RBD factorial with Aim at 0.375 oz. /ac. (Aim Managed Maturity) as the added factor applied ten days ahead of two harvest aid treatments, Prep at 32 oz. /ac. and Prep at 32 oz. /ac. plus Aim at 1 oz. /ac., which were to be applied as a lone treatment harvest aid treatment. All treatments for this trial totaled of four. Plots were 4 40 inch rows wide X 38 feet long and were arranged in an RBD design. Data on percent open boll, percent attached green boll, percent defoliated, percent stuck leaves, and a regrowth rating were taken seventeen days following the final harvest aid treatment and were statistically compared using ARM utilizing AOV and LSD ($P=0.05$).

In terms of percent open boll the Aim Managed Maturity factorial treatments numerically, but not significantly, outperformed the standard harvest aid treatments alone. In percent green leaf, the Aim Managed Maturity followed by Prep alone outperformed all other treatments. In percent defoliated leaves, the Aim Managed Maturity followed by Prep treatment outperformed both harvest aid treatments alone, and the Aim Managed Maturity followed by Prep and Aim and the Prep and Aim treatment outperformed the Prep alone treatment. In percent 'stuck' leaves there were no significant differences found. All numeric differences in plant regrowth rating on the standard 0-10 scale were very small but the Prep alone harvest aid treatment did show an increase in regrowth potential compared to all other treatments.

These results indicate that under the right conditions, such as late, growthy, or otherwise considered 'rank' cotton can receive good benefit from an Aim Managed Maturity treatment making the cotton more harvest aid and harvest ready sooner.

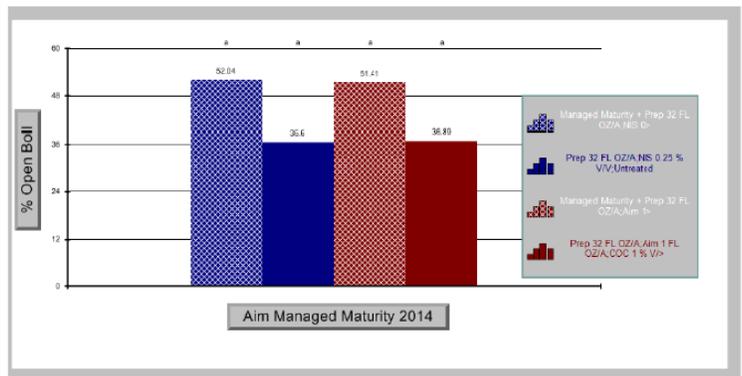


Figure 1. Percent open boll by treatment at 15 DAT from harvest aid treatment. ($P=0.1555$)

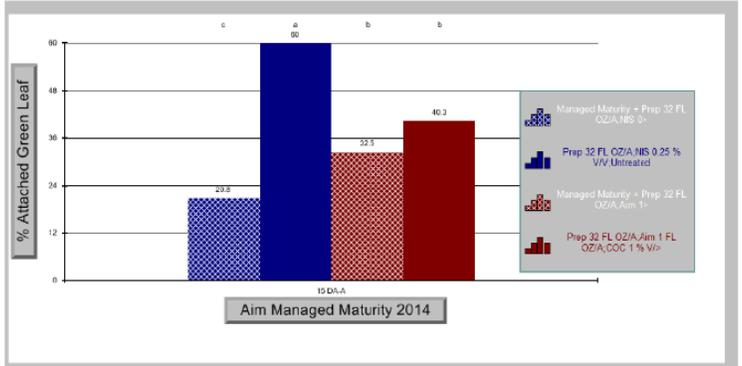


Figure 2. Percent Attached and Green Leaves by treatment 15 DAT from the harvest aid treatment. ($P=0.0001$, $LSD=9.54$)

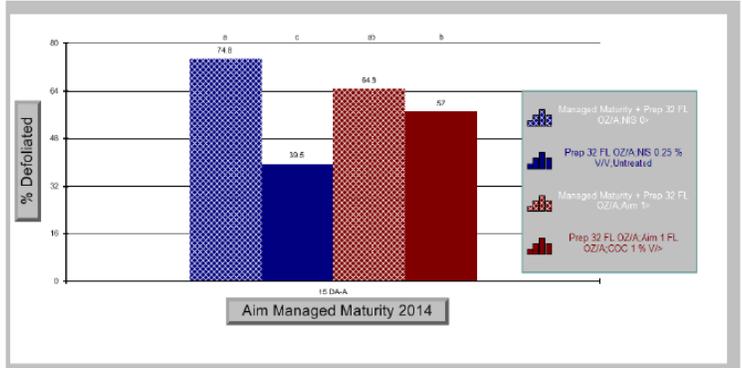


Figure 3. Percent Defoliated Leaves by treatment 15 DAT from the harvest aid treatment. ($P=0.0002$, $LSD=10.15$)

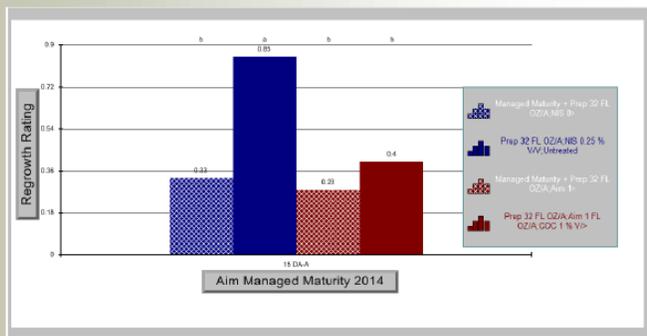


Figure 5. Average Regrowth Rating by treatment 15 DAT from the harvest aid treatment. ($P=0.0005$, $LSD=0.208$)

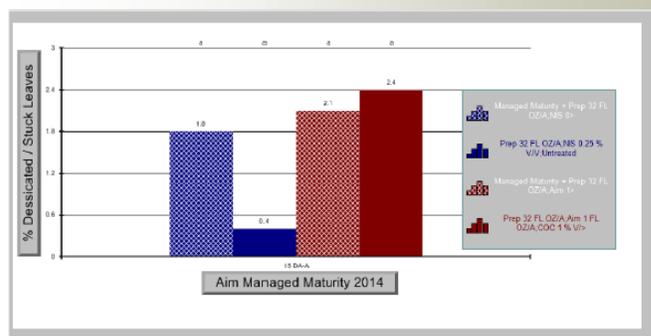


Figure 4. Percent Desiccated Leaves by treatment 15 DAT from the harvest aid treatment. ($P=0.1068$)



225 Broadway, Suite 6
Plainview, TX 79072

Tel: 806.291.5267
Fax: 806.291.5266

E-mail: Blayne.Reed@ag.tamu.edu

WEB

<http://hale.agrilife.org>

For quicker pest alerts-

*Plains Pest
Bugshere:*

<http://halecountyipm.blogspot.com/>

*Pest Patrol Hotline,
registration at:*

www.syngentapestpatrol.com

Educational programs by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, religion, sex, disability or national origin.

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is implied nor does it imply its approval to the exclusion of other products that also may be suitable.

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.*

Blayne Reed

Sorghum

This week we have only been able to make it to a small percentage of our PPM sorghum fields yet. These fields were progressing well with the added moisture at a good time for this crop. However, our pest pressure was high for both SCA and headworms. SCA in these cases were rebuilding following treatment and the predators were locked in a battle with the headworms. The predators were winning in the field fields we have been able to check, but they also have plenty of SCA to eat and could slip similarly to the cotton fields. The sorghum headworm calculator can be found at: <http://bug.tamu.edu/apps/sorghumheadwormcalculator/index.php> to help you with the decision to treat in your fields.

Corn

All of our earlier planted corn is drying down for harvest, or at least we are officially waiting on the grain to dry down. There are many area silage corn and grain corn fields that are simply waiting on the fields to dry out. I have not noted any excessive lodging in either but I do suspect some silage might be past its prime.

Of the few late planted fields we have been able to check this week, the stages range from dough to late dough. Little has changed from last week in stage or pest pressure. The corn earworms are still pouring into our late planted corn and the accumulating damage is higher than I would like to see, but I still do not feel the damage would be worth a blanket treatment as per the CEW cannibalistic nature resulting in massive population reductions. This is steadily occurring in this late corn once the larva find one another in the ears, but due to the ridiculous pressure, we have been running 3 to 5 CEW per ear for 3 weeks or longer. Some fall armyworms are present but have little chance to push aside the CEW and their 'survival of the fittest' nature. The spidermite population is now very hard to find, if at all, but the diseases, namely Southern rust and common rust, continue to increase in the moist conditions. I have not recommended and fungicide yet, but that could change once we are able to resume scouting.

Average number of fall armyworm moths per trap, Lubbock, Texas 2016. Current year averages are based on two traps.

