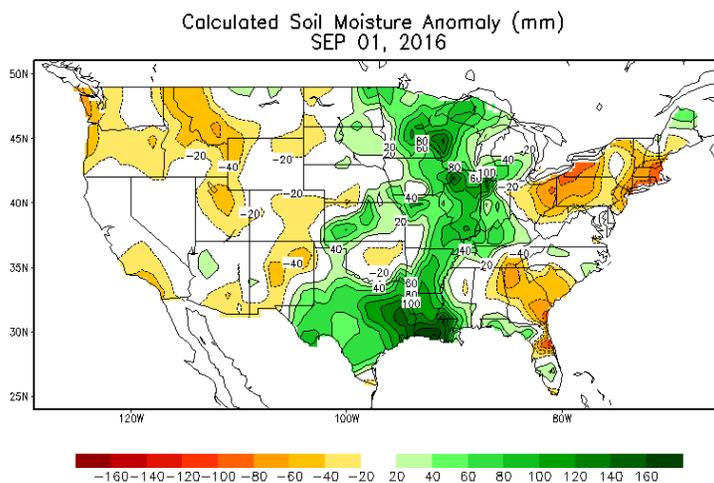


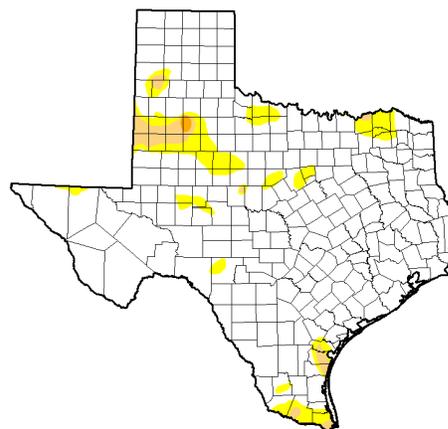
General Status

I am not real sure as to our status today. We have plenty of concerns but as I do not have my scuba certification and I let my boater safety license slip I cannot say just where we stand on all of those today. We have been very wet this week and unable to get into just about all of our Plains Pest Management scouting program fields yet. The amounts of rainfall this week do not really seem to have been that gargantuan, but the weather has remained rainy, and muddy, across just about

every nook and cranny of Hale, Swisher, & Floyd all week. No one can say that mother nature did not provide everything we needed to make a great crop this year. I am not about to brag about her timing one bit. I believe it is possible



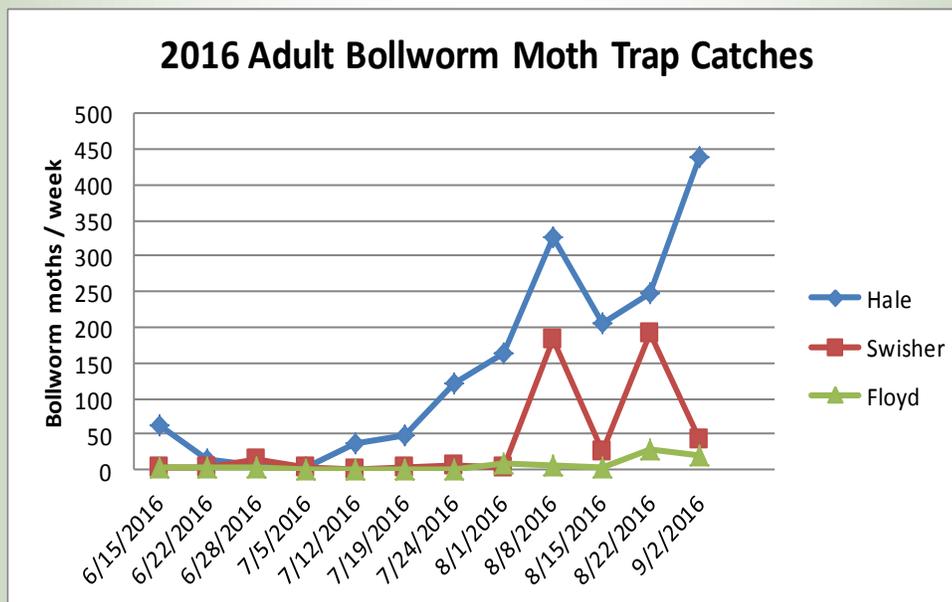
for the weather events we have had this growing season to come at worse times but I don't really want to find out. From a weather caused late start, through a branding iron corn pollination and then sweat room boll set period, to a ridiculously wet and cool start to a fall where heat is needed and I think most of us would like to shuffle the periods in which we received our weather. Not to complain about the rain. Our late planted corn and sorghum should love the current weather and it is a grand planting rain for our wheat. It is also very likely to flush another, if not the last, round of summer weeds causing us to plow out most of the moisture on that wheat ground in order to plant that wheat into clean ground. There are worse problems to have, such as no rain at all.



Today, rather than go through each crop and state I really don't know what is happening in the fields, I plan on listing potential issues to watch carefully for once we can and where they are likely to be.

Bollworms / Headworms / Corn Earworms

Last week we had another or second large moth flight our traps pickup up on. As we are just able to get to these traps yesterday and today, the numbers I have today represent more than 7 days of captures. It is more like 10 and 11 but, it looks like this flight is still ongoing, at least for Hale in a big way. I should also state, we likely have a grasshopper issue with them getting into our traps in Floyd and are likely eating that site's numbers down and no amount of kill strips seem to be able to abate their impact on our numbers.



These moths do represent a significant threat to cotton and sorghum, even as we enter September. Many of these moths were likely moving in from the San Angelo area, were there were issues with bollworms surviving multi traited *Bt* cotton in notable numbers. These moths will be attracted to post tassel – pre dent corn, pre black line sorghum, and all lush cotton fields. I might also emphasize a need to scout quickly all lush cotton fields, regardless of *Bt* trait type, and pre black line sorghum. These are the fields where these worms can to the most economic damage. Still lush cotton, even though squares, blooms, and dime to nickel size bolls have almost no chance of making harvestable bolls today, they do provide a easily infested starting point for the worms to move to the portion of the crop that will do us economic damage.

We will be taking careful looks in our program fields as soon as we can get to those seriously at risk fields.



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Bugshere:***

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***Pest Patrol Hotline,
registration at:***

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***"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.***

Sugarcane Aphid

Obviously, we will be looking at our sorghum fields quickly and as soon as we can for both headworms and SCA. This aphid population looked to be peaking in our program fields just as the wet spell started. From questions I received this week and limited observations, there should be several area fields where this pest is at ET and folks are anxiously waiting getting in the field as soon as possible to treat. Not to belittle the need to corral this pest in a quick and timely manner, quite the opposite, but from some of the longer term biological studies on SCA that other entomologists are running are landing on our ears. One thing that might benefit us today is their feeding habits. When it is cool, this aphid feeds less. This will be very important as both our labeled and know to work products, Sivanto and Transform, must be eaten once absorbed into the plant before they will can kill the aphids. So, the knowledge to take home is this, do not spray for SCA when temperatures are cool. The aphid will not be feeding, and thus not ingest the product while it is active in the plant.

So, not only do we need to avoid spraying for SCA in hot, dry weather to avoid treatment evaporation before the plant can absorb these products, and getting the maximum GPA out to ensure coverage of the lower leaves and intake on those lowest leaves, we also need to avoid spraying in cool weather to ensure the aphids will feed on the treatment while it is still active in the plant. And, as with any treatment, try to avoid spraying in front of any rain to avoid treatment wash off before the product can be absorbed. If that is not putting a fine & somewhat ridiculous point to a

ridiculous pest, I am scared to ask what would be. It can also help explain some of the treatment failures in dealing with SCA over the past.

Blayne Reed

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

