

Blacklands IPM Newsletter

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Status

A few scattered showers passed over the southeast part of the county today, dropping barely enough rain to turn the windshield wipers on. Our forecast shows a pretty good chance of rain for later next week, however.

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News and Articles

[Transform WG](#) insecticide has received a Section 18 emergency exemption use on sorghum and cotton in Texas for 2017.

In order to move forward with their merge with Monsanto, Bayer is being required to sell their [LibertyLink trait technology](#).

Wheat

Wheat is in hard dough and there are many fields in the midst of harvest. Last year we were facing severe delays due to continuous rain, so at least this dry spell has allowed for timely combining.

Lodging from Hessian fly should be obvious now, but very few fields have any significant damage. There's not much to be done about the pest, especially this late, except to choose resistant varieties next season.



Corn

Corn ranges from V3 to tasseling, but all of it needs a good, drenching rain. Water stress can lead to multitudes of problems, including increased aflatoxin prevalence and susceptibility to spider mites and other pests.

Check for spider mites on the edges of fields, especially next to dust gravel roads. Typically mite infestations can first be spotted in those areas.



Cotton

Most cotton is creeping out of the ground slowly, still holding on for some moisture. If you have cotton next to a maturing wheat field or weedy areas, be sure to scout early and often for thrips. Scouting should begin at 50% stand emergence, actually, and continue until cotton has at least 5 true leaves. Thrips can easily damage cotton plants in cool, wet conditions or drought when plant growth is slowed.