

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

News about
Integrated Pest
Management in
Hockley,
Cochran, and
Lamb Counties
from
Kerry Siders



Sept. 10, 2021

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Pest and Crop Situation

Cotton continues to make good progress during this warm streak. Most cotton fields have bloomed out the top/bolled to the top. Unfortunately, most of this late set bolls will be shed over the next few days. Many fields are going through this major adjustment in fruit load by shedding squares and small bolls less than a week old. So, if you peel back the cotton plant and look on the ground right now, don't panic, that is natural shed. As I have discussed in prior issues, I would target the next week or so to start shutting water off. I would be hard pressed to recommend irrigating after September 15th. I hate to use calendar dates early in season because we must provide the plant what it needs, when it needs it. However, here at the end we only have so many days, day length, sunshine, and heat units left to accumulate. So, all that equates to forcing the plant to mature out soon and not way late. Everyday from here out we should be seeing more cracked and open bolls. We will discuss harvest aid timing here next week.



We are not finding much of any insect pest activity. If Lygus are present they are most likely damaging younger fruit which will not contribute to yield and are not worth protecting.

Grain sorghum that is still flowering to soft dough needs to be watched carefully for sugarcane aphids, headworms, Lygus, stinkbugs, and midge. Insect pests are as variable as the sorghum is in growth stage. Call if you need help.

Upcoming Meetings:

September 14th - West Texas Ag Chem Institute Conference, Lubbock

September 15th – Hockley Ag Producer Appreciation Shrimp Boil, MEC, Levelland

September 23rd - Cochran Farm Fair, Fairgrounds, Morton

October 28th - Ag Awareness Event (4th graders) Mallet Event Center, Levelland

WTACI 69th Annual Conference Set for September 14

The West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute (WTACI) will host their annual conference on Tuesday, September 14, at the FiberMax Center for Discovery, located at 1121 Canyon Lake Drive in Lubbock.

This year represents the 69th meeting of WTACI, an unincorporated organization of dealers, industry representatives, agricultural producers, scientists, educators, and agribusiness members who support research and education programs promoting safe and effective use of agricultural chemicals and protection and preservation of the area's natural resources.

Topics to be discussed at the conference include weather risk in production agriculture; pesticide laws and regulations; carbon cycling and storage in semi-arid environments; predators, pest and cotton; new herbicide technologies for sorghum; an update on cotton diseases in 2021; a Washington DC update; an agronomy panel; and crop protection research symposium. A detailed list of presentations and speakers will soon be available at <http://wtaci.org>.

The conference is approved for 7 CCA credits, and 7 TDA CEUs are pending at this time.

Pre-registration is available online at <https://wtaci.eventsmart.com>. On-line registration fees are \$75 for conference attendees and must be paid at the time of registration. On-site registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. the day of the conference and will cost \$95 for attendees. Lunch will be provided as part of the registration fee. For booth and sponsorships opportunities, contact Nathan Foster at (806) 893-7316 or nfoster@wilburellis.com.

Contact Shawn Wade at (806) 792-4904 or shawn@plainscotton.org for questions about the program and CEU's. If you have trouble or questions regarding registration, contact Whitney Curry at (806) 792-4904 or whitney@plainscotton.org.



Agricultural Committee

1101 Avenue H

Levelland, TX 79336

Guest Speaker:

DR. JOE OUTLAW

TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Presenting On:

CARBON CREDIT

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