

WEST
PLAINS
IPM
UPDATE

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

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CURRENT SITUATION

Cotton ranges from seed still in the bag to be planted, to 4.5 true leaf cotton (planted May 6). This is normal range for this time. By my estimates from checking fields from Ropesville, to Oklahoma Flat west to Morton and down around Lehman, and then back to Levelland I would estimate that there is still ~25% to be planted. This is both dryland and irrigated. The rain early this morning dropped up near 2" for some, 1" for many, and nary a drop for a big swath out west in Cochran County. I cannot review all the scenarios which have played out over the last 3-4 weeks during planting. Just suffice to say that it has been a real struggle to get cotton up, and still is for many. We have missed some critical general rain showers to help with uniform planting moisture. So hopefully your situation is beginning to straighten out and the path is clearer for this growing season. However, I know there are many where still too many uncertainties exist in this current planted crop and what direction it will take. If you have to make that hard decision to leave your cotton and replant another crop here is some considerations:

<https://lubbock.tamu.edu/files/2020/06/Hailout-Replant-LatePlant-Guide-TX-S-Plains-Trostle-Maeda-2020.pdf>

Scouting this week has detected thrips ranging from 0 to 2 per plant in Hockley and Cochran counties and greater than that in Lamb County. Remember the threshold for thrips is one thrips per a true leaf. So as an example, if a field is averaging 2 leaf cotton, then an average of 2 or more thrips per plant would be cause for an insecticide application. We inspect 100 plants per field when we scout for thrips. For more information go to:

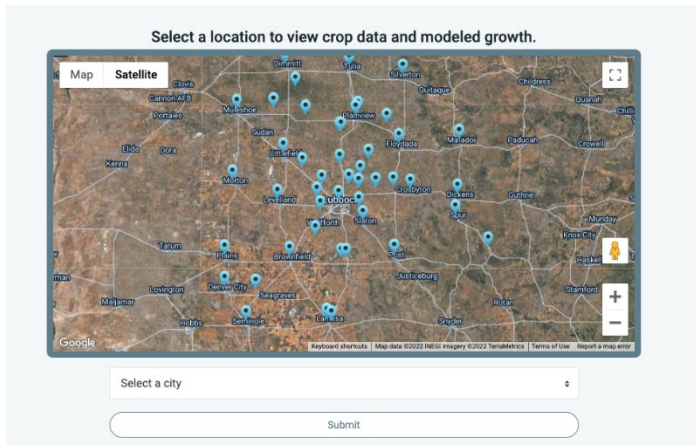
http://lubbock.tamu.edu/files/2017/05/ENTO-069_fn.pdf.

Attention to weeds, nematodes, plant growth regulators (PGR's) and fertility are the issues which should start becoming priorities. Weed control is all over the board. Unfortunately, this is a field-by-field prescription situation now in terms of what type of tillage you plan on using in-season, weeds present, the size of those weeds, available equipment, availability of herbicide, and cost. Here is a good chart on cotton herbicides from Dr. Dotray:

<https://lubbock.tamu.edu/files/2020/02/Cotton-Circular.pdf>

From Plains Cotton Gowers COTTON NEWS:

NEW HEAT UNIT CALCULATOR AVAILABLE



An all-inclusive heat unit calculator has been brought back to the High Plains. “We’ve felt the absence of this tool for the last few years, and are excited that it has been brought back,” said Kody Bessent, PCG CEO. “It’s a unique tool that will be valuable as we move into the fall.”

To view the heat unit calculator, please visit: cotton-stress-lab.us/locations.



Applied Research and Demonstration Projects

Zane Thrash plant a BASF project on May 6 near Ropesville containing FiberMax and Stoneville varieties. A Deltapine cotton variety trial was planted Pug Lyon’s farm west of Morton on May 14. A nematode variety screen with Dr. Cecilia-Santana Monclave was planted at Duane Cookston farm on May 14 as well NW of Whiteface. A BASF Fibermax/Stoneville trial was planted at Raymond Marek farm on May 18 and replanted on June 1. A Phytogen Innovation cotton variety trial was planted by Tate Melton at Sammy Harris farm in Ropesville on May 29. Several nematode management trials and a thrips study was planted at Seth Howard farm near Whiteface on May 30 with Dr. Terry Wheeler. Planted a dryland BASF FM/ST trial at David Albus farm at Oklahoma Flat on May 31.



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