

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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

July 7, 2016

Vol. 21 – No. 6

CROP AND PEST SITUATION

Peanuts continue to bloom with pegging beginning or going strong with good pod development. Irrigation is critical at this point in peanuts. It is critical not only for the plant to grow but also it creates an environment which is conducive for peg penetration of soil. If soil surface is too hot and dry pegs will not develop properly, and hence no pod. No insect pests have been noted in peanuts. I have not seen much in the way of pathogens either. The dry environment will help reduce the incidence of foliar diseases. Weeds continue to be challenging. There are excellent herbicides labeled for peanuts. Just remember though that the options become fewer and more costly as the season progresses.

Cotton ranges from 6 leaf stage to 14 true leaves with 8 squares. I suspect we could see some early blooms by this coming week. Generally, it will be after July 20 or so before we see most cotton beginning to bloom. In the IPM Scouting Program we have noted fleahoppers and Lygus range from 0 to 15 per 100 terminals. Square set has remained above 90%. Be reminded that threshold would be 25 or greater fleahoppers combined with less than 90% retention of squares. Weeds seem to be the most dominate pest at this time. A long varied list of weed species noted throughout my three county service area. If you need help identifying a weed and coming up with a control plan give me a call. Remember, these weeds serve as host to many of our cotton pests. Cotton has made excellent progress over the last few weeks. Obviously there have been some major hurdles and most likely some of those will continue. Many acres will be nearing bloom soon. Those fields will be going into bloom with an average of 8.75 nodes above white bloom. With the square sets generally being in the 90% range I still have an optimistic outlook for most area cotton production. As long as the water holds up or we receive some good measurable precipitation I will remain optimistic.

Grain Sorghum has a few whorl feeding worms and cornleaf aphids, nothing to get excited about. Fortunately the sugarcane aphid has yet to arrive in any noticeable numbers, yet. Reports of the SCA to the south, in the Concho Valley, and +100 miles off the Caprock to the east have been received. If you suspect these aphids in your local sorghum please give me a call.

SCOUTING FOR FLEAHOPPERS IN TEXAS HIGH PLAINS COTTON (2016)

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Entomology



Published on Jul 6, 2016

Kerry Siders discusses the fundamentals of scouting cotton for fleahoppers on the Texas High Plains and in West Texas. Click here to see video:

<https://youtu.be/epVctkRkTHs>

Peanut Scouting

Typically when we scout peanuts we look for diseases, weeds and insects. Probably look for them in that order of importance. However, it is very important that we continue to monitor nodules for their functionality, general health and viability of the root system, numbers of blooms, rate of pegging, and success of pegs to develop pods. At each visit to the field we need to see good progress. If anyone of those processes has an issue it can have an impact on final yield.

The peanut plant to the right looks like it is “clicking on all eight cylinders” right now.



Private Pesticide Applicators Training

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer the required private Pesticide Applicators Training (PAT) each month. This training is required by Texas Department of Agriculture before taking the exam for obtaining the license. A private pesticide applicator is a person who uses or supervises the use of a restricted-use or state limited-use pesticide or a regulated herbicide for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity. This license is not for those receiving monetary compensation for a pesticide application.

To participate in training individuals must call 806-894-3159 by 3pm the day prior to the training in Levelland or 806-385-4222 ext 235 by 3pm the day prior to the training in Littlefield, and 806-266-5215 for training in Morton. The trainings will begin promptly at 1pm at the Extension Offices (see addresses below). There is a \$60 fee for training materials. This is only the required training. Testing will be conducted at a separate time and location.

Future PAT Trainings:

- July 28 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- August **TBA** Littlefield Extension Office, Courthouse, Room B-5
- September 22 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue
- October 27 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- November **TBA** Littlefield Extension Office, Courthouse, Room B-5
- and December 19 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities for any educational meetings. Please contact us to advise us of the auxiliary aid or service that you will require a week in advance of training.

See You On The Radio

IPM Radio Program Aglife on Fox Talk KJTV, radio 950 AM, on Wednesdays from 1:00 to 2:15 pm.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in Hockley County Report on KLVT Levelland, High Plains Radio Network, radio 1230 AM, Wednesdays from 7:30 am to 7:45 am.

West Plains IPM Update is a publication of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service IPM Program in Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Counties.

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