

*Pest Management News  
News About integrated pest management for  
producers in Runnels-Tom Green Counties*

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GENERAL SITUATION

Parts of southern Runnels county received up to 2.8-inches of rainfall Monday afternoon. It was a relatively small area but was very beneficial to those that received the moisture. Much of the dryland cotton is cut-out (< 5 NAWF). The irrigated cotton ranged 4.9 to 6.9 NAWF this week with 6.7 being an average. Water demand is high and growers are struggling to keep up. It is difficult without some help from Mother Nature.

Many sorghum fields were treated the past week or so for (white) sugarcane aphids. (They have changed the name so as to not confuse it with the yellow sugarcane aphid.) If you have sorghum and haven't checked it lately, I would suggest it be checked for the presence of this aphid. I have never seen infestation levels this high in sorghum. Infestations are so high in some fields the sorghum leaves are glistening with honeydew.



Transform® WG @ 1.0 ounce per acre has been working well. Use a good 90/10 surfactant or MSO with the application. Tranform® WG does not control headworms and only suppresses stink bugs. The label calls for 2.0-2.25 oz./acre for suppression of stink bugs on other crops so we shouldn't expect excellent control of stink bugs at the rate we are using. If headworms and high infestations of stink bugs are present, then a pyrethroid should be added to the mix.

Transform® is very beneficial friendly. It does not have a significant impact on beneficials but a pyrethroid certainly does kill all the natural enemies. So realize the white sugarcane aphid could resurge in a couple of weeks if all the natural enemies are taken out.

**STINK BUGS**

The Conchuela Stink Bug is present in both cotton and sorghum at this time. It is much easier managing this pest on sorghum than in cotton. They are also a lot easier to scout for on sorghum. As the sorghum matures, the stink bugs will move into cotton and begin feeding on bolls. One to two stink bugs per 6 row feet can cause significant damage to cotton. Feeding on bolls may cause boll shed and/or seed damage and lint staining. Damage is not real evident on the outside of the boll so it is necessary to cut bolls and look for internal injury.

**COTTON APHIDS**

It's that time of the season where cotton aphids begin to increase and growers are encouraged to monitor closely for aphid infestations. Interns began seeing small colonies of cotton aphids here and there in some fields this week. Most economically damaging infestations occur during August and early September. Fields should be scouted twice weekly since rapid increase in aphid numbers can occur in a short time. Remember, they are all females and give birth to live young. They become reproductive in 5-8 days. Each female gives birth to 60-90 offspring.

**Aphid Action Threshold**

Prior to first cracked boll      50 aphids per leaf  
 After first cracked boll        10 aphids per leaf

**Some recommended insecticides would include:**

Intruder® 70 WP            0.8-1.0 oz.  
 Centric® 40 WG            1.25-2.0 oz.  
 Transform® WG            0.75-1.0 oz.  
 Bidrin® XP                 4.0-6.0 oz. (If stink bugs are present as well)

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**TURNROW MEETINGS.....** Wall Coop at 9:00 am on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Ballinger Courthouse, Third Floor, Large Room at 8:30 am on August 20<sup>th</sup>. See you there.

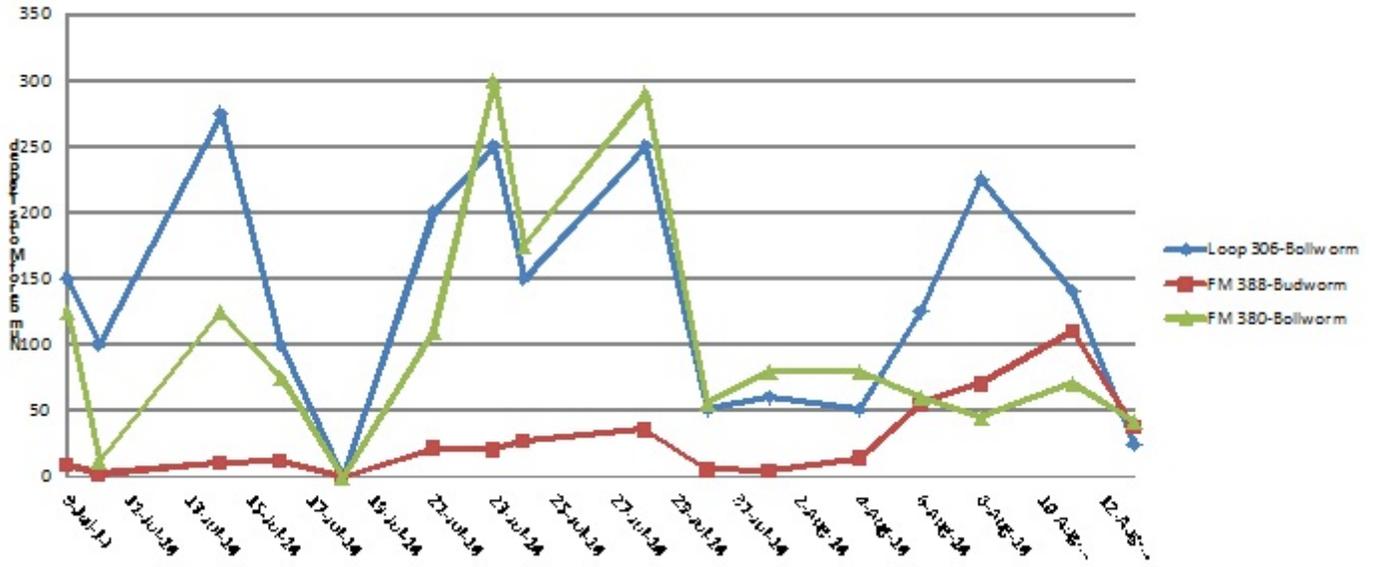
**A MULTI-COUNTY FARM BILL MEETING** is set for Wednesday September 24<sup>th</sup>. It will be held from 8:30-12:00 noon at the Tom Green County 4-H Building. This is a very necessary meeting. Many changes are coming and almost everything you do will pertain to internet and computers. A decision aid has been built by Dr. Joe Outlaw and his group to assist producers in making management decisions on their individual farms. Here is the website you can go to now and get started to setting up your account and learning about the new farm program.

<https://www.afpc.tamu.edu/models/decisionaid.php>

**TOTAL HEAT UNIT (HU) ACCUMULATIONS**

Planting Date	Total HU Accumulation as of August 13, 2014
May 15, 2014	1,927.5
June 1, 2014	1,660.5
June 15, 2014	1,400.0

**Tom Green County Bollworm/Budworm Trap Data**



**Tom Green Fall Armyworm Trap Data**

