



Integrated Pest Management

Runnels-Tom Green Counties
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**Turn Row Meetings:
I will announce these
dates in the next
newsletter.**

**If you would like to be added to
the newsletter email list please
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GENERAL INFORMATION

From the storms that passed through last Friday night (5/15), I have received rainfall reports ranging anywhere from 4/10" to 1.2". Wheat harvest has started, with early yields coming in average for the area.

Sorghum and corn continues to progress. Sorghum ranges anywhere from V7 to flag leaf in the whorl. Regarding corn, growth stages range from V10-V12. Irrigation continues to be put on for corn, and Aflaguard applications are going out for aflatoxin. There are no reports of spider mites in corn.

Cotton planting has started, with some fields already emerged. Be cautious of thrips in the early planted cotton. Thrips are slender, straw colored insects about 1/15" long with piercing-sucking mouthparts. Thrips attack leaves and leaf buds that cause a silvering of the lower leaves, deformed leaves, and terminal loss. Their feeding causes stunted planted and crinkled leaves that curl upwards (Figure 2). Insecticide seed treatments usually provide control until the two to three true-leaf stage.



Figure 1. Adult thrips. Photo credit: Dr. David Kerns



Figure 2. Thrips damage in cotton. Photo credit: Suhas Vyavhare

IPM WEEKLY PODCAST

There is now a weekly IPM podcast that you can receive updates from the Concho Valley & St. Lawrence area! I am doing it in conjunction with Brad Easterling, the IPM Agent in Glasscock, Upton, and Reagan Counties.

There are two ways to sign up:

1. Go to <https://www.texasinsects.org/signup-texts.html> and fill out the signup box for the Concho/St. Lawrence podcast. (It will be on the right side of the page, or scroll to the bottom if you are using your cell phone)
2. Text the word conchoipm to 833-717-0325

PARAQUAT TRAINING

Any person who intends to **mix, load, apply, or handle** paraquat must complete the EPA approved paraquat training. You must be a certified applicator AND complete this training in order to use paraquat. The training must be retaken every three years. Currently the only way to do this training is through an online link. (<https://npsec.us/paraquat>).

This online training requires about 45 mins to an hour of your time, with a 15-question test at the end of the training. You must score 100% to receive your certificate.

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