



Pest Management News Runnels-Tom Green Counties



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General Situation

Make no mistake about it, summer time heat has taken ahold in the Concho Valley and it doesn't appear to be leaving anytime soon. Cotton is responding well to the heat and the heat units are really adding up. Soil moisture is holding up in most areas considering the last 2 weeks of heat. However we are going to need some additional moisture soon with this heat, especially the cotton in bloom and late grain sorghum.

*Joshua Blanek, CEA
Tom Green County*

Grain Sorghum

The early planted Grain Sorghum is going to be ready to be cut this week with a majority being ready in the next 3 weeks. Continue to scout for Sugarcane Aphid. Keep harvest pre-harvest intervals in mind when making insecticide treatments. Sivanto 200 SL – 21 days for grain (7 days for hay; Transform WG – 14 days for grain (7 days for hay).



Fleahoppers



Fleahopper populations have stayed low in the area. As mentioned before, as weeds continue to mature and burn down in the heat, continue to scout the late planted, early squaring cotton for movement of Fleahoppers. After first bloom they are not considered a pest.

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Stink Bugs

With early cotton just now blooming, Stink Bug populations have stayed low but have been a problem in some grain sorghum fields. However Stink bugs are beginning to show up in cotton and should be scouted for especially next to Grain Sorghum fields as it matures and is harvested, and/or you border pasture land. Recent research indicates that decisions to treat for stink bug infestations may be best made based on boll damage. To use this



Green stinkbug adult

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Stinkbug —

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technique remove 25 bolls, one 1-inch in diameter (quarter size), from each of four parts of the field. Cut these bolls open and examine the interior carpal wall for wart like growths or staining. Using the Boll sampling method, Stink Bug threshold is reached when the presence of stink bugs with 20% or more bolls with warts on inner carpal walls and/or stained lint. Suggested insecticides include Acephate, Pyrethroid, Baythroid, Bidrin, Brigade, Brigadier, Leverage, Declare, Karate, Endigo, Mustang Max and Hero.

Aphids



At the last Turnrow meeting there were a few isolated reports of Aphids in cotton. A few aphids in cotton will attract the beneficial insect predators. And as grain sorghum is terminated for harvest, some of those beneficial should move over to cotton and help. Fields should be scouted twice per week when aphids are present since rapid increases in aphid numbers can occur in a short time. A total of 60 leaves divided between the top, middle and lower portion of the plant should be sampled from plants across the field to determine actual infestation level. Once aphid numbers are near threshold, re-scout in 48 hours to determine whether aphid numbers are declining. Action threshold is 50 aphids per leaf prior to first cracked boll. After first cracked boll threshold drops to 10 aphids per leaf. Suggested insecticides from the 2013 National Survey of 20 cotton entomologists from across the cotton belt indicate that Transform, Carbine, Intruder, Centric, Leverage 360 and Admire Pro worked the best. Flairing of secondary pests were seen after using Pyrethroid, Diamond, Acephate, Vydate, and Bidrid.

Total Heat Unit (HU) Accumulations

Planting Date	Total HU Accumulation as of July 26, 2015	Long Term Average
May 15, 2015	1,442	1,483
May 25, 2015	1,317	1,335
June 5, 2015	1,150	1,147
June 15, 2015	935	956

Upcoming Events

Turnrow Meeting – Tuesday, July 28 at Wall Coop at 9:00 am

Concho Valley Small Grain Meeting – Wednesday, August 19th at the Lowake Community Center in Lowake. Registration at 8:30 am, Program from 9:00 – 2:00. 3 CEUs. Registration and lunch is free for those who RSVP by Aug. 14 and \$25 for those registering at the door. To RSVP or for more information, contact the AgriLife Extension offices in Tom Green County at 325-659-6523; Coke County at 325-453-2461 or Runnels County at 325-365-5042.

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