

WEST  
PLAINS  
IPM  
UPDATE

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

July 21, 2017

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Pest and Crop Update

Cotton has really been growing off well under the current weather conditions. Many fields are reaching bloom stage or will be blooming in the next week or so. This is a great milestone physiologically to achieve before the end of July, as it gives us almost a full month then to bloom and set bolls. In fact, some fields still are growing a bit too much vegetatively and could use a plant growth regulator to balance out some of this growth to the reproductive side. I say this knowing several fields are not going into bloom until they have 9 nodes above white flower. This is great if we have an exception fall. However, I personally would rather see 7–8 nodes above white flower going into bloom. Not too much horsepower to over shoot the target but enough to get there and mature it out with quality. Pest wise we are not concerned so much with fleahoppers once we move into bloom stage cotton. Still watch some young cotton that we need to protect those squares. I would concentrate on Lygus, worms on conventional cotton, and watching for aphids. Irrigation is critical at this stage for cotton to progress at a pattern mentioned above and so that it matures out properly. To wait could only cause late growth which will possibly have maturity issues. Also, get your fertilizers out in the next 10 days. Bacterial blight has been noted in some local fields. If you have concerns please give us a call. Here is more information:

[http://cotton.tamu.edu/Nematodes/16\\_FS\\_FC010\\_Cot\\_Bact\\_Bl.pdf](http://cotton.tamu.edu/Nematodes/16_FS_FC010_Cot_Bact_Bl.pdf)

Grain sorghum in Hockley, Cochran and Lamb counties continues to **not** have detectable sugarcane aphids. Please report in findings you may have to me so I can alert others. Scout on a regular basis.

Peanuts are generally doing well. We are in the time frame in which a preventative fungicide application might be considered for maximum protection from disease and meeting yield goals. Conditions could become ripe for leaf spot development and other peanut disease issues.

## Private Pesticide Applicators Training 2017 Cochran, Hockley and Lamb Counties

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will offer the required private Pesticide Applicators Training (PAT) in Morton, Levelland and Littlefield throughout 2017. 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 a training individuals must call 806-894-3159 by 3pm the day prior (Wednesday) to the trainings in Levelland; 806-385-4222 ext 235 by 3pm the day prior (Wednesday) to the trainings in Littlefield; or 806-266-5215 by 3pm the day prior to any trainings 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:

- August 28 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue
- September TBA Littlefield Extension Office, Courthouse, Room B-5
- October 19 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- November 6 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue
- December TBA Littlefield Extension Office, Courthouse, Room B-5

*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



Wednesdays from 1:00 to 2:15 pm. 950 AM

Wednesdays from 7:30 am to 7:45 am.



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