

# WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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

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## Pest and Crop Update

Cotton has generally been growing off much better the past couple of weeks 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 mid-July, as it gives us 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, and particularly cotton bollworms. I am not saying just on conventional cotton either. We must scout technology cotton as well. 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 ASAP and for certain before the end of the month.

Grain sorghum is all over the board. Many acres have just been planted. I would not recommend planting after this point unless it is simply just for cover or a Sudangrass hay. Just know the sugarcane aphid was found in northern Lamb County this week in some seed sorghum. Scout!

Peanuts continue to well. We are in the time frame in which a preventative fungicide application should be considered for maximum protection from disease and meeting yield goals. I have detected leaf spot just starting in a few fields in Hockley and Cochran Counties.

## Private Pesticide Applicators Training 2018 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 2018. 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; 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:

- July 24 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue
- August 16 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- Sept 13 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street
- October 23 Morton Extension Office 200 W. Taylor Avenue
- Nov 29 Levelland Extension Office 1212 Houston Street



*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 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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