

Caprock Pest Management Newsletter

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Partners with Nature

July 20, 2012

Volume 4 No. 5

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Current Crop Conditions

Program cotton ranges from pin-head moving quickly into match-head dryland to full bloom in irrigated. The majority of program cotton has moved into its first week of bloom. This past Monday parts of Crosby and Floyd Counties were fortunate enough to receive some rain. Rainfall ranged anywhere from 3/10 to 2 1/2 inches. With

this past rain event and the more cooler to moderate temperatures we have had over the past couple of weeks cotton has really progressed well. I have received several phone calls this week regarding mepiquat chloride. As it stands right now I am recommending anywhere from 4-8 ounces/acre on most fields that need it. Mepiquat chloride recommendations are going to be on a field by field basis. There is a lot of cotton in both counties that probably will not need any, so if you are thinking about whether or not you need to make an application call me and we can discuss it. Also producers who have not put out all of their fertilizer should go ahead and get it out there the next week or two.

PUMPKINS



Pumpkins range from stage IV to early stage V. At this time fungicide applications are going out every 7-10 days. These are preventative applications for controlling powdery mildew. A couple of applications were made last week for squash bugs. Aside from those applications the pest situation in pumpkins is fairly calm. As this pumpkin crop moves into stage V producers should begin preparing to apply the last of their fertilizer to this crop.



Pest Situation

The pest situation at this time in cotton continues to remain calm. Since the majority of cotton in both counties has gone into bloom we have moved out of harms way from fleahoppers. For the younger cotton that's out there I encourage producers to continue monitoring for this pest. Lygus should continue to be monitored in older cotton as this pest can feed on larger squares and small bolls. The threshold for lygus in blooming cotton is 2 per 3 row feet using a beat sheet and 15-20 per 100 sweeps using a sweep net. At this time however, lygus numbers remain low. Over the past couple of weeks I have noticed a slight increase in our beneficial numbers. A couple of new pests producers should start monitoring for are aphids and bollworms (especially in our conventional cotton). As of now I have not picked up aphids in any program cotton field although, I did hear a report that Hockley county was picking up aphids in their cotton but beneficial insects have been doing an excellent job of cleaning them up. As for bollworms I did hear a report yesterday that they were finding small numbers of bollworms in some field corners in Crosby County. One pest that producers should keep a very close watch on is weeds. Producers should keep an eye out for escaped pigweed after a glyphosate application. **DO NOT LET THEM GO TO SEED.** The resistance is out there so I can't stress enough the importance of watching your fields after you make a glyphosate application. Monti Vandiver, IPM agent in Parmer and Bailey Counties, conducted a weed resistance study and the results are not very encouraging. To view the photos from this study just follow the link <https://plus.google.com/113906598690202663036/posts/Y9bnBMnQNTe> .

Hear updates on the radio:

IPM Radio Show Ag Talk on Fox Talk KJTV, Radio 950 AM, every Wednesday from 12:30pm-2pm

Texas AgriLife Extension radio reports on All Ag All Day 900AM KFLP Floydada

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