

# Caprock Pest Management Newsletter

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*Partners with Nature*

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## In This Issue

- **Crop Conditions**
- **Pest Situation**

## Current Crop Conditions

Hot and dry conditions have been the weather pattern this week in Crosby and Floyd counties, with temperatures in the triple digits. Program cotton ranges from 3-4 true leaves in dryland fields to match-head square in irrigated fields. Herbicide applications are in full swing with many producers treating fields late last week and this week. Cotton

that was damaged a few weeks ago by hail and then by the blowing wind and sand has started to grow out the damage nicely putting on new growth. Producers in both counties have fired up their wells giving their crops a drink to help alleviate the heat stress.

## Pumpkins

Pumpkins range from late stage II to early stage III and are coming along well. The hot



and dry conditions have not really plagued pumpkins that much. Pumpkins can tolerate these conditions as long as they are not excessive which so far they have not. Producers should start thinking about making their first fertilizer applications soon and begin thinking about fungicides if you haven't already. The pest situation in pumpkins at this time is very calm.

## Pest Situation



The pest situation in cotton continues to remain very calm. Thrips should continue to be monitored for in late planted cotton and dryland cotton that are sitting at 3-4 true leaves. Producers who have cotton that has just started squaring or cotton that's older should now turn their attention to Fleahoppers and Lygus. Fleahoppers are about 1/8 of an inch long, have piercing/sucking mouthparts and are yellowish-green to pale green in color. The nymphs resemble the adults but lack wings. Adults and nymphs suck sap from the tender portion of the plant, including the small squares (pin-head or smaller). At this time I have not seen nor heard of any reports from producers or consultants regarding fleahoppers but we should monitor for them closely. Lygus are another pest that we should be watching for at this time. From

scouting program fields in Crosby and Floyd counties I have yet to pick this pest up at this time. However, I did hear from a consultant Wednesday that he treated a couple of fields in Garza County for this pest. Lygus are about 1/4 of an inch long and have a conspicuous triangle in the center of the back. Lygus are winged, and vary in color from pale green to yellowish brown with white and reddish brown to black markings. Lygus are also have piercing/sucking mouthparts and will feed on the squares of cotton.

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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