

WEST
PLAINS
IPM
UPDATE

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

Sept. 3, 2021

Vol. 26 – No. 12

Current Crop and Pest Situation

Grain sorghum ranges from nearing harvest on early planted to just near boot. Those acres which have not headed yet I would be extremely conservative on what I spend on those acres. It will be cutting it close to have time to mature out. I feel confident in those acres which are at or very near flowering that they have time and worth protecting from sugarcane aphids and the headworm complex. I think most of us really could use that next rain this weekend, and hope you get yours. For many that last rain event seems long ago now. So, sugarcane aphids (SCA) have become the dominate pest of concern this last couple of weeks. I have not seen a field without SCA, many have already been treated and cleaned up, while others have not yet reached threshold. Here in lies the reason why YOU MUST SCOUT! Sorghum midge have not been that common on flowering milo. This late milo is prime candidate though for midge. Those fields which are post-flowering need to also be scouted for headworms. I am also finding a Lygus and green stink bugs in many sorghum heads as well. Consider them when and if you check heads. Call if questions on scouting, threshold, and treatment options.



Continued

The portion of the **cotton** crop which reached physiological cut-out (5 nodes above white flower) before August 10 should have accumulated 400 heat units and is safe from most all insect pests at this time, other than cotton aphids. We do still have cotton aphids parked out in many, if not all cotton fields. Aphid numbers have not warranted treatment here of late. Keep close watch though as we begin to have open bolls. The threshold goes down to only 10 per leaf then. Verticillium wilt has not been as pronounced the past couple of weeks as I thought it might be. Make note of those fields which have vert wilt and choose a variety which will be more tolerant next year. Now is still an excellent time to sample the soil for cotton root-knot nematode infestation. This will help determine level of management you will need to use next year.



The question about irrigation has been asked quite often the last few days. Who would have thought with those 2-5" rains we received that we would have had to crank the wells back on this last week or so. So, the rule of thumb I go by is that a boll should remain fairly stress free the first 20 days of development. The last bolls were formed on approximately August 20th. Therefore, it needs to stay stress free up till September 9th. After this point it can wilt, as long as the plant recovers before the next morning for next 20 days (September 29th).

In **peanuts** I am not concerned now with foliage feeders or other insect pests. The incidence of foliar disease has been very low the past two weeks. With the forecast be careful about the development of leaf spot and other above and below ground disease. I have seen some onset of black hull here this week. Understand, there is not much one can do about this. The goal now is to maintain vine health and keep pods maturing out. I don't think we are too terrible far out from starting to dig. Time to start scrapping hulls here next week. Irrigate only as needed to keep peanuts fresh until dug with little stress.



Upcoming Meetings:

September 14th - West Texas Ag Chem Institute Conference, Lubbock

September 15th – Hockley Ag Producer Appreciation Shrimp Boil, MEC, Levelland

September 23rd - Cochran Farm Fair, Fairgrounds, Morton

October 28th - Ag Awareness Event (4th graders) Mallet Event Center, Levelland

WTACI 69th Annual Conference Set for September 14

The West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute (WTACI) will host their annual conference on Tuesday, September 14, at the FiberMax Center for Discovery, located at 1121 Canyon Lake Drive in Lubbock.

This year represents the 69th meeting of WTACI, an unincorporated organization of dealers, industry representatives, agricultural producers, scientists, educators, and agribusiness members who support research and education programs promoting safe and effective use of agricultural chemicals and protection and preservation of the area's natural resources.

Topics to be discussed at the conference include weather risk in production agriculture; pesticide laws and regulations; carbon cycling and storage in semi-arid environments; predators, pest and cotton; new herbicide technologies for sorghum; an update on cotton diseases in 2021; a Washington DC update; an agronomy panel; and crop protection research symposium. A detailed list of presentations and speakers will soon be available at <http://wtaci.org>.

The conference is approved for 7 CCA credits, and 7 TDA CEUs are pending at this time.

Pre-registration is available online at <https://wtaci.eventsmart.com>. On-line registration fees are \$75 for conference attendees and must be paid at the time of registration. On-site registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. the day of the conference and will cost \$95 for attendees. Lunch will be provided as part of the registration fee. For booth and sponsorships opportunities, contact Nathan Foster at (806) 893-7316 or nfoster@wilburellis.com.

Contact Shawn Wade at (806) 792-4904 or shawn@plainscotton.org for questions about the program and CEU's. If you have trouble or questions regarding registration, contact Whitney Curry at (806) 792-4904 or whitney@plainscotton.org.



Agricultural Committee

1101 Avenue H

Levelland, TX 79336

Guest Speaker:

DR. JOE OUTLAW

TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Presenting On:

CARBON CREDIT

West Plains IPM Update is a publication of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service IPM Program in Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Counties.

Editor: Kerry Siders, Extension Agent-IPM

Contact information:

1212 Houston St., Suite 2 Levelland, TX 79336

(806) 894-3150 (office),

638-5635 (mobile)

ksiders@tamu.edu (E-mail)



Partners with Nature

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is implied.

The Texas A&M System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating