

# WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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



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### Current Situation

As is always the case this time of season, our cotton crop is all over the board from just planted, to the small percentage of cotton acres on the other end of the spectrum which are near squaring and making good progress. However, it is the majority in between which is of most concern. I suspect the most recently planted (both original planting and replant acres) will jump out of the ground and take off running quickly and could even out pace those acres planted two to three weeks earlier. These acres have struggled from stresses from wind, blowing sand, hard driving rain, but mostly cool air temperatures. So, stand establishment and evaluation are still a top priority along with weed management.

Here are my priorities from mid-June through mid-July:

- ✓ **Fertility** -where are you at in reaching your realistic yield goal? Adjust accordingly and get it implemented soon.
- ✓ **Irrigation** -most plants are rooted down into good moisture or will be soon. Right now, we have stored moisture for a few weeks or possibly more. As we go into bloom and boll development be sure to account for the water demand curve.
- ✓ **Weed control** – I would encourage producers to utilize glufosinate (Liberty) while we have moisture and some humidity to take some selection pressure off the Xtend and Enlist technology herbicides. I would encourage residual herbicide as well.
- ✓ **Plant map** - what is the plant telling you: Will it need a plant growth regulator with good moisture, heat, and fertility?
- ✓ **Insect scouting** - never let your guard down; watch for thrips on late planted acres, wireworms, Lygus and fleahoppers.
- ✓ **Foliar Nematicide applications** – if you have a history of cotton root-knot nematodes and possibly failed to get the variety of your choice to best deal with the nematodes or you did not get an at-plant protection out, then your last resort would be an application of Vydate or Return. I like a split application of 8.5 oz 7-10 apart.

## BARKER RESEARCH FARM Report – Morton



- The Barker Research Farm is planted.
- Grain sorghum rotation plot on the north, northwest is making good progress with only an occasional Russian thistle escape.
- Our wheat plot in the north, northeast, which was planted to rye this first year for summer cover, has finally produced somewhat of a plant that may provide residue until next year. We hope.
- Cotton stands in both the systems plots, and research plots are looking better every day since we have had some warm days.
- WEEDS! Our next major priority will be weed control in the no-till portions of the farm. We will start by using glufosinate (Liberty) while we have moisture and to take some selection pressure off using dicamba too frequently. We'll save the dicamba for the next go around. Along with the Liberty we will use Dual Magnum. Could use Outlook, or Warrant. We do have some volunteer corn in the south drip which we will tackle with a Fusilade/Select type herbicide.
- If you have any questions about what is going on out here, give me a call. Kerry

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**IPM Audio Report** from Kerry Siders, Blayne Reed, John Thobe, and Keegan McCollum here on the Texas Southern High Plains. Other areas of the state are available as well.

Click on the following link to sign-up for weekly reports:

<https://www.texasinsects.org/agriculture-audio-updates-home.html>

# IPM COTTON SCOUTING & MAPPING CLINIC SERIES

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension*

**Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Cos. IPM Program**

**Opportunity to learn or refresh how to scout for  
pests and how to map the cotton plant.**

**1 hour IPM - TDA CEU**

**Cotton Scout School #1**

**May 11, 9-10 am**

**Extension office, Levelland**

**Cotton Scout & Map School #2**

**June 23, 9-10 am**

**TBA (In-field near Levelland)**

**Cotton Scout & Map School #3**

**July 21, 9-10 am**

**TBA (In-field near Littlefield)**

**Cotton Map & Harvest Aid  
School #4**

**August 25, 9-10 am**

**Barker Res. Farm, Morton**

**If questions contact Kerry Siders at 806 638-5635**

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