



## Pest Cast

*The Row Crops IPM Newsletter for the LRGV, a cooperative project of Texas AgriLife Extension Service and the Cotton & Grain Producers of the lower Rio Grande Valley*

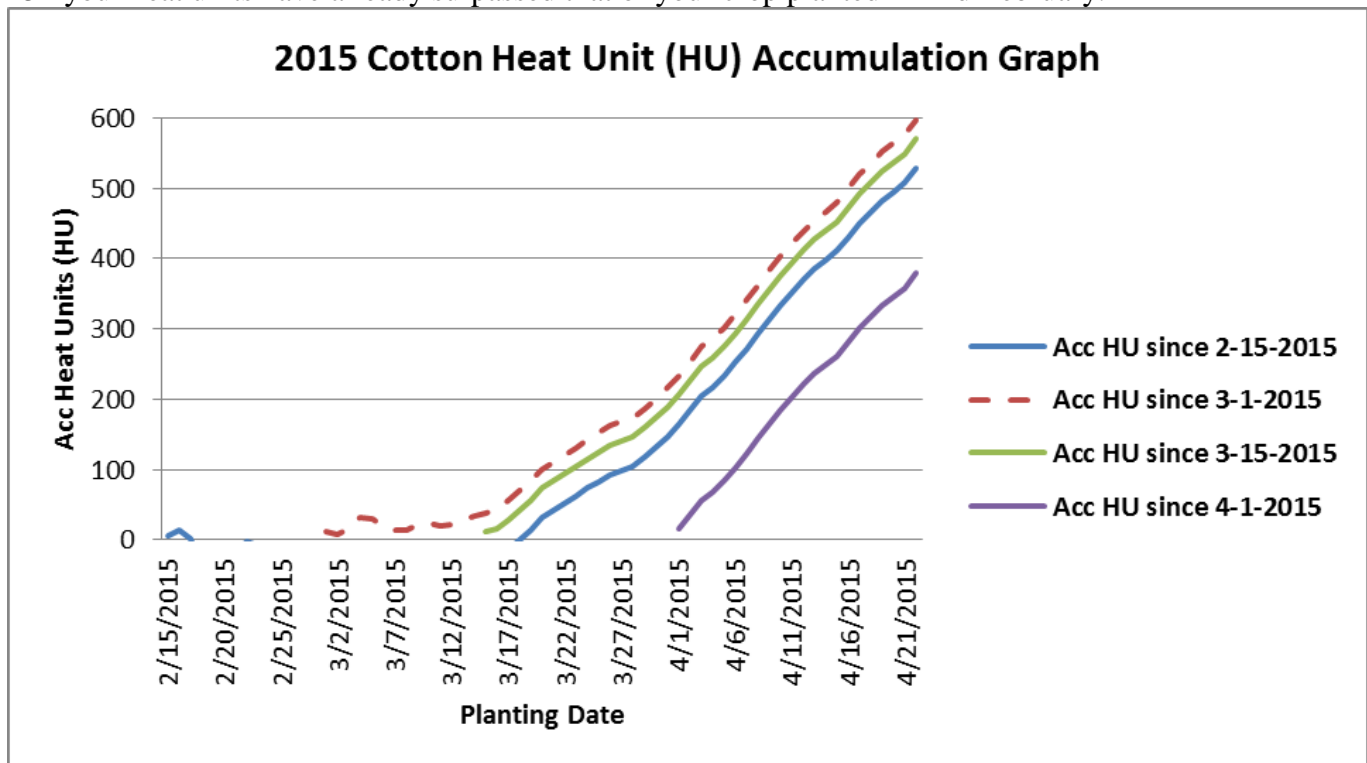
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IPM Extension Agent

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### General Situation

The Valley has been heating up nicely with temperatures in the mid to upper 80s. Most areas have been riddled with some light rain showers these past three weeks. Many growers were seen this week out applying herbicides and cultivating their fields while many others are still planting. Some growers have faced issues with roundup drift as well within these last few weeks. This year if you planted from March 1<sup>st</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> your heat units have already surpassed that of your crop planted in mid-February.



### Cotton

There is about 50,000 acres of cotton that was planted in the LRGV. Majority of cotton is anywhere from 4 to 6 true leaves with the older cotton starting to square. The light spidermite populations we were seeing last week seem to have been washed away by the rain. We will have to keep an eye on increasing cotton aphid populations these next two weeks as they have been easy to find in many cotton fields.

### LRGV BOLL WEEVIL TRAPPING INFORMATION

YTD	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
	.00651	.00180	.00171	.02631	.00335	.00651	.25052	.21873	.41357	.77436	6.47392

Week Ending	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
4/19/15	.01756	.00164	.00099	.01617	.00360	.00592	.11633	.30512	.40392	.88875	6.47392

### Grain Sorghum

In grain sorghum we are seeing more winged sugarcane aphids on some older commercial grain sorghum. Reports of some fields with grain sorghum at flag leaf have had winged aphids identified starting to colonize the field. While here at the station we have been seeing very light sugarcane aphid populations but have noticed an increase in winged SCA as well. There are still many fields of grain sorghum that have yet to be planted as growers work around the rain to do so. This will be a very different season as we continue to monitor our fields as many fields across the Valley are at different plant growth stages or have yet to be planted. The slow start of SCA population this year might be due to the humid conditions (completely different from last year) however, as we have few aphids across the valley, they are widely distributed and these ‘colonizing’ SCA can suddenly produce an outbreak as environmental condition became favorable (the forecast for this weekend is of high temperatures and absence of rains). We need to continue monitoring and be alert. The following websites below have more information on the SCA.

<http://agrilife.org/stxborderinsects/sugarcane-aphids/>

<http://txscan.blogspot.com/>

### Corn

Corn continues to have good growth as no pests of concern were observed in corn this week.

### Sponsorship

Pest Cast sponsorship opportunities will be available again this year. Your support is very much appreciated. Cotton and Grain Producers of the LRGV will be coordinating the sponsorships again. For more information on sponsorship, please contact Webb Wallace at [cottonandgrain.lrgv@gmail.com](mailto:cottonandgrain.lrgv@gmail.com) or (956) 491-1793.



We thank the following Sponsors of the Pest Cast newsletter for their very generous contributions toward this effort.



## 2015 Pest Cast Sponsors

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