



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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General Situation

Today we received some hard rains this morning as it moved in quickly through the Valley from the west. This week was nice and hot with daily temperatures in the lower 90s and nights in the upper 70s.

Cotton

We saw some of the first blooms in cotton this week as stands have anywhere from 8-10 nodes. This week many growers sprayed for fleahoppers as the weather heated up. Fleahopper nymphs and adults were being seen in great abundance in eastern Willacy and Cameron counties. Moderate fleahopper pressure in Hidalgo county as well as some fields were sprayed south of Donna. We continue to see low populations of cotton aphids. In eastern Cameron starting to see a couple stink bugs and Verde bugs pop up in the fields. This week we also saw many predators such as lacewing larvae, pirate bugs, ladybug larva and adults in the cotton as well.

LRGV BOLL WEEVIL TRAPPING INFORMATION

YTD	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
	.01466	.00144	.00096	.01086	.00191	.00806	.17765	.13110	.27630	.35697	1.52198

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
4/26/15	.02083	.00149	.00076	.01572	.00114	.00312	.23686	.17102	.36414	.18005	2.96203
5/3/15	.02954	.00086	.00060	.00339	.00133	.01528	.09081	.09113	.18227	.08629	1.70269
5/10/15	.01121	.00243	.00058	.00474	.00043	.00825	.05548	.08168	.07073	.09976	.73028
5/17/15	.00136	.00035	.00060	.00136	.00077	.00291	.02454	.07013	.17113	.09204	.72057

Grain Sorghum

Sugarcane aphid pressure is very low right now as we continue to monitor sorghum fields. This year due to many factors SCA populations did not increase as drastically as last year. Continuous rainfall, overcast skies, low heat, abundance of predators, tolerant varieties, and effective insecticide chemistry all contribute to the lower populations of SCA in sorghum this year.

A few fields were sprayed for sorghum midge as we have been seeing 10-20% sorghum midge infestation in fields and light head worm pressure. As we spray for sorghum midge and head worms continue to monitor sorghum for late SCA outbreaks. I would strongly recommend that if you are not seeing an

average SCA population of 100 SCA/leaf then you should wait to spray if possible so as not to decrease the beneficial insects present keeping the SCA in check.

Below are links with more SCA information:

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

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


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