



Pest Cast

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

John W. Norman, Jr.
Editor

Volume XXXIV

Issue 15, July 20, 2012

GENERAL SITUATION: Most of the week was hot and dry with occasional sea-breeze driven, scattered showers thrown in for good measure. Most fields around the Valley received little or no rain, but a few isolated fields, particularly in southeastern Cameron County, received in excess of 4.5 inches. Other spots in western Willacy County received over 1.5 inches. Grain sorghum and corn harvests were continuing with most of the grain harvest finished. Corn still has a little ways to go and cotton harvest will probably go to near the end of August.

COTTON: Many fields were scheduled for defoliation this week and even more next week. Harvesting was increasing, but most of the area fields will not be harvested for at least another two weeks. A few fields were being irrigated for the final time this week.

Whiteflies were about the only pest of concern in less-than-mature fields. Sticky and blackened leaves were increasingly common sights in later maturing fields this week, especially in southern Cameron County and in many Hidalgo county fields. As more fields are defoliated, adult whiteflies will move towards anything green which means later maturing cotton fields will be targeted. The quicker fields can be finished up and defoliated, the better for final whitefly management. Simply put, stopping whiteflies is not an option. Living with the whiteflies until the fields can be defoliated is about the only option available to growers with late cotton.

A few *Verde bugs* were seen in fields across the Valley this week. Reports indicated Verde bugs were not a problem. The later maturing fields where Verde bugs could be of concern were being treated for whiteflies and few Verde bugs have been able to survive the whitefly treatments.

No other significant pest concern was reported this week in cotton. This season is winding down in a hurry.

| Heat Units (H.U.) as shown are calculated from the dates of planting shown in the left column | | |
|---|------------|------------------|
| Planting Dates | 2012 H.U.s | Historical H.U.s |
| 2/15 | 3143.0 | 2788.2 |
| 3/1 | 2929.0 | 2686.3 |
| 3/15 | 2825.5 | 2571.1 |
| 4/1 | 2553.0 | 2366.9 |

LRGV

BOLL WEEVIL TRAPPING INFORMATION

| YTD | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| | .01879 | .01516 | .01162 | .14106 | .27060 | .22885 | .76497 | 5.97293 |

| Week Ending | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|----------|
| 4/1/12 | .03353 | .00476 | .00672 | .19847 | .08503 | .64118 | .48544 | 0 |
| 4/8/12 | .01617 | .00360 | .00592 | .11633 | .30512 | .40392 | .37552 | 0 |
| 4/15/12 | .01572 | .00114 | .00312 | .23686 | .17102 | .36414 | .88875 | 6.47392 |
| 4/22/12 | .00339 | .00133 | .01426 | .38106 | .05425 | .23751 | .15855 | 3.48685 |
| 4/29/12 | .00474 | .00043 | .01528 | .09081 | .09113 | .18227 | .08629 | 1.70269 |
| 5/6/12 | .00136 | .00077 | .00825 | .05548 | .08168 | .07073 | .09976 | .73028 |
| 5/13/12 | .00055 | .00174 | .00291 | .02454 | .07013 | .17113 | .09204 | .72057 |
| 5/20/12 | .00485 | .00234 | .00140 | .10516 | .08410 | .06717 | .20786 | .58319 |
| 5/27/12 | .00426 | .00177 | .00336 | .20724 | .06413 | .17113 | .09204 | .72057 |
| 6/3/12 | .00339 | .00244 | .01018 | .13857 | .04752 | .13497 | 1.00114 | .82565 |
| 6/10/12 | .00281 | .00720 | .00794 | .17487 | .11127 | .03975 | .46624 | 1.77066 |
| 6/17/12 | .01212 | .00556 | .00766 | .06249 | .13535 | .17113 | .09204 | .72057 |
| 6/24/12 | .00935 | .00570 | .01430 | .03580 | .49846 | .12318 | .32430 | 6.85560 |
| 7/1/12 | .05315 | .05716 | .01456 | .13756 | .30683 | .16200 | 2.17874 | 7.73737 |
| 7/8/12 | .05972 | .10697 | .03933 | .14793 | 1.63195 | .59710 | 3.61197 | 22.70318 |
| 7/15/12 | .07231 | .07553 | .06099 | .06107 | 1.65666 | | | |

Traps inspected for current week: 36,300

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

Gold

✧ **Hidalgo County Farm Bureau**

✧ **Texas Grain Sorghum Producers Association**

✧ **Valley Co-Op Oil Mill**

✧ **Wilbur-Ellis Company**

Silver

✧ **Dow Agrosiences**
✧ **Willamar Gin Co.**

✧ **RGV Gin Co.**

Bronze

✧ **Adams Farms**
✧ **Bennack Flying Service**
✧ **Farmers Crop Insurance**
✧ **Hargill Growers Gin**
✧ **La Feria Co-Op**
✧ **RGV Ag Science, Inc.**
✧ **Ross Gin Co. Ltd.**
✧ **Skalitsky Brothers Farm**

✧ **All-Tex Seed**
✧ **DuPont Agricultural Products**
✧ **Gulf Compress**
✧ **Helena Chemical**
✧ **Monsanto/DeltaPine**
✧ **Rio Grande Aviation**
✧ **Salazar Farms**
✧ **Texas AgFinance**



For details on sponsoring the Pest Cast Newsletter, please call Cotton and Grain Producers Executive Director, Webb Wallace, at 956-491-1793.

Contact Info

Pest Cast Newsletter
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
South District 12
2401 East Highway 83
Weslaco, TX 78596
(956) 968-5581
E-mail: d12south@ag.tamu.edu
<http://southtexas.tamu.edu>