



## 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

Windy! It has been very windy this past week with the past few days having 20mph wind. Still hot with temperatures in the high 90s during the day and high 70s during the night.

### Cotton

We are picking up on a lot of fleahoppers in the cotton this week. I have been seeing both adults and nymphs but did notice more fleahopper nymphs than last week. Fleahopper infestation levels have been anywhere from about 15% to a 30% infestation in most fields. Many fields this week were or have been sprayed for fleahoppers. We have a lot of cotton still squaring pretty good and a lot of cotton that has just put on bolls on the lower branches. Be mindful that some growers have just started to harvest grain sorghum and many will be starting next week and the tarnished plantbugs that are in the grain sorghum will more than likely move over to the cotton so we will want to keep an eye out for tarnished plantbugs these next 2-3 weeks, especially in the cotton that will be putting on the immature bolls since they love to feed on them. It has been reported that this week some whitefly nymphs were seen in the cotton but no populations yet of concern. Also we have seen a couple bollworms in cotton here and there but again nothing that warrants treatment. Reports of Verde bugs about 1-2 being seen a day while scouting along the coast but again nothing that warrants treatment yet.

I would like everyone to be aware that we did receive approval for a Section 18 for use of Transform in cotton for control of plant bugs; this section 18 expires October 31, 2017. The Section 18 label for Transform in cotton is attached. When using Transform to control plant bugs a rate per application allows for 1.5-2.25 oz/acre, with no more than a total of 8.5 oz/acre per year to be used. Remember to Not apply within 14 days of harvest and do not make applications less than 5 days apart. Also do not make more than two consecutive applications per crop.

### Grain Sorghum

In grain sorghum we are seeing a lot of rice stink bug adults and nymphs this week in all 3 counties but especially along the coast in Cameron and in Willacy Counties. A few growers have had to spray for rice stink bugs so please check for them. Also any late grain sorghum that is barely blooming please check for midge, had a grower call me today and told me he had to spray for midge. Still seeing hardly any sugarcane aphids in the sorghum, very few if any with many beneficials present as well as parasitism going on along with a fungus I have noticed. I'm not seeing any headworms this year, if any maybe one or two every once in a while. I have picked up on some tarnished plant bugs in the grain sorghum. A few guys started harvesting this week but mainly next week will start to see more harvesting as I noticed driving around you could see a lot of the fields that had glyphosate sprayed were drying up nicely.

**See you next Tuesday!**

There will be a **Grain Sorghum and Corn Field Day at Rio Farms on Tuesday, May 23**. We will be checking out how the hybrids from all the seed companies look in the field trials. There will also be a feed grains market update, insect update and other pertinent topics. Come join us!!

TDA continuing education credits will be offered.

The program agenda is attached.

**Thank you Research Grant Sponsors**

**Cotton Inc.**

**Texas Grain Sorghum Board**

**USDA NIFA iPIPE CAP grant**

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