



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

The last of the grain sorghum and corn was being harvested this week. Sesame is coming along nicely as it begins to dry out and get closer to harvest as well. In cotton we are seeing about 30% to 50% open bolls in majority of fields throughout all three counties. Many growers starting to think about what harvest aids to use whether it be a defoliant, desiccant, boll openers or a combination of them. The efficacy of harvest aid products can be greatly affected by environmental conditions, so it is important to consider time of application, % humidity and other factors that affect moisture present that could inhibit the products from working properly. Temperatures remain hot this week with a couple of stray rain showers but nothing major.

Cotton

Whiteflies and Verde bugs are the two main pests of concern this week. I saw many whiteflies across cotton fields in all three counties this week. There are an abundance of adult whiteflies and I did see some nymph activity present. Growers will want to spray to control populations now before they cause any sooty mold to occur to avoid staining the open cotton already present and more yet to come.



Figure 1: Open boll cotton

Table 10. Whitefly action thresholds

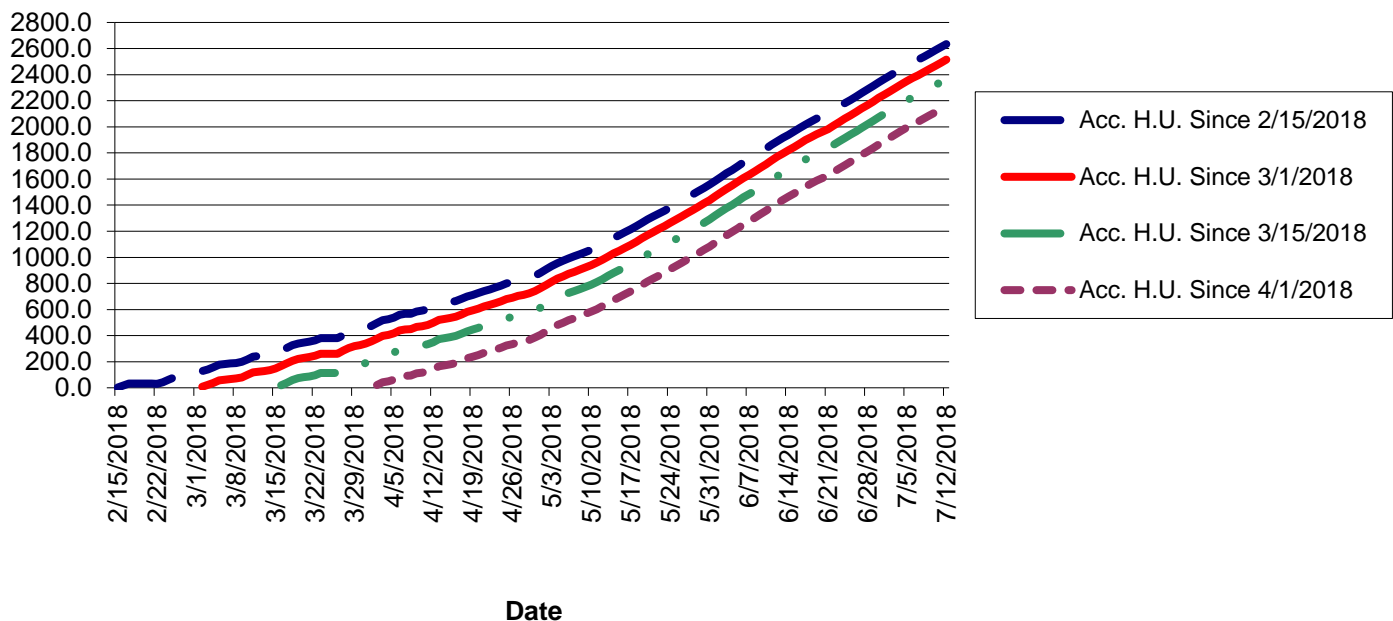
Insecticide option	Silverleaf whitefly	
Adulticide	When $\geq 40\%$ of the 5th node leaves are infested with 3 or more adults	
Insect growth regulator (IGR)	When $\geq 40\%$ of the 5th node leaves are infested with 3 or more adults and nymphs are present	When $\geq 40\%$ of quarter-sized disks* contain at least one large nymph
Cotton stage	Bandedwing whitefly	
Before open bolls	50 whitefly nymphs per 5th node leaf	
After open bolls	25 whitefly nymphs per 5th node leaf	

*Quarter-sized area taken between the main middle vein and one of the main lateral veins from a 5th node leaf

In the coastal areas such as Rio Hondo and Bayview we were seeing many Verde bugs present. In a couple of fields we were seeing 5 adults per plant. You only need to see 1 per plant to warrant spray treatment. There is still a good amount of cotton with small immature soft bolls that can be penetrated and fed on by Verde bugs so please access your cotton field and spray if needed.

Whiteflies								
Intruder Max 70WP/Strafer Max	acetamiprid [^]	1.7–2.3	0.075–0.1	9.41–6.96	Caution	Neonicotinoid (4A)	12h	28
Acephate 90 Prill	acephate [^]	8.9–17.6	0.5–0.99	1.8–0.9	Caution	Organophosphate (1B)	24h	21
Orthene 97	acephate	8–16	0.487–0.974	2–1	Caution	Organophosphate (1B)	24h	21
Oberon 45C	spiromesifen	3–8	0.09–0.25	42.7–16	Caution	Tetronic and Tetramic acid derivatives (23)	12h	30
Knack	pyriproxyfen	8–10	0.054–0.067	16–13	Caution	Pyriproxyfen (7C)	12h	28
Centric 40 WG	thiamethoxam	2.0–2.5	0.05–0.0625	8–6.4	Caution	Neonicotinoid (4A)	12h	21
Sivanto 200 SL	flupyradifurone	10.5–14.0	0.137–0.183	12.19–9.14	Caution	Butenolide (4D)	4h	14
Admire Pro	imidacloprid [^]	1.3–1.7	0.0467–0.0611	98.46–75.29	Caution	Neonicotinoid (4A)	12h	14

2018 Cotton Heat Unit (H.U.) Accumulation Graph



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