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

Still very dry in the Lower Rio Grande Valley as we did receive a tad bit of rain in some areas but not enough to put a dent in the drought condition we are experiencing as of now.

Cotton

I would like for everyone to be mindful that we are already finding fleahoppers in cotton that is squaring, both adults and nymphs present. We noticed this in cotton fields north of Edinburg near FM 490 on 6 true leaf cotton where cotton was already squaring nicely. In the mid Valley very low populations of red spider mites and if it continues to be dry and dusty like it has I expect to see more so be mindful of that. Also any cotton in 4 true leaf stage to 6 true leaf stage we are seeing medium to heavy amounts of cotton aphids building populations fast and will need to spray for them since they are feeding heavily on the growing point. We noticed more thrip damage this week in mid Valley.

Grain Sorghum

We continue to scout grain sorghum for sugarcane aphids but have not seen any populations of concern yet. Here is a map of where we have been scouting for sugarcane aphids. Red dots are where they have been present and green dots are where we have checked and not see any yet. We will continue to monitor and alert as they migrate inland in the next coming two weeks.

Everyone have a good Easter weekend and we will see you back next week.
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