



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

Very hot, muggy, dry week in the LRGV. Temperatures have been in the high 90s with some days above 100 but either way the heat index makes it feel like we are at 105F all week long for the most part. Heat Units chart at the end.

Cotton



Figure 1: Adult whiteflies on underside of leaf

In cotton we have been seeing few to light populations of fleahoppers present as most cotton fields are past the stages for damage. I have had some reports of a couple fields being treated for Verde bug and tarnished plantbug but for the majority of the Valley plantbug numbers are fairly light in cotton. I am noticing some light red spidermite pressure in some cotton fields as well. Main pest I am seeing in cotton right now is whiteflies in Edinburg and along Military hwy in the Pharr, Donna, Alamo areas. Several have had to apply twice already for whitefly control as we are seeing many adult whitefly present and several nymphs and eggs as well in these areas. Whiteflies can get out of hand quickly if not controlled promptly and with plenty of water (10 to 15 gallons per acre) to ensure good coverage of the insecticide being used. The recommended treatment threshold for whiteflies in cotton is 3 to 4 adults per leaf and one large nymph per square inch of the bottom surface of leaves. Most growers are applying preventative sprays to avoid whitefly buildup. *Please see chart at the end of Pest Cast for Insecticide rates for control of spidermites, fleahoppers, and whiteflies in cotton*



Figure 2: Close up of Whitefly nymph/immature, taken from Cotton insect mgmt. guide 2018

Grain Sorghum

Late grain sorghum received many midge sprays and sprayed for headworms as well this year. From what little sorghum out there, I have not seen any sugarcane aphid present nor have I seen any re-infestations going on as we continue to harvest sorghum. Many growers finished harvesting their sorghum this week or are well on their way to finishing. I heard of some yields out of McCook in dryland sorghum averaging anywhere from 3000 to 3500 lbs/acre. In Willacy dryland sorghum I heard of good yields of 4,000 to 5,000 lbs/acre. Corn is being harvested as well as I have heard of it being harvested at around 80 bushels/acre.

Sesame

We have been seeing minimal corn earworm (Fig 3) damage in the sesame. You might have noticed some feeding and a hole in the sesame pods (aka shotgun hole damage) (Fig 4), this damage is typical to that of corn earworm. I have not seen enough in sesame that warrants treatment just mindful to keep eye on it. I have also picked up on a handful of fields that have



Figure 4: Corn earworm damage

alarming populations of tarnished plantbugs mainly in the Monte Alto and Hargil areas. I believe they are migrating out of all the grain sorghum fields that have been harvested. I expected to see them move into the cotton but they seem to prefer to move into the sesame. My concern is that the tarnished plantbugs might be feeding on sesame that is still blooming and forming pods, especially since when entering into these fields I was finding them on the tops of the terminals and right in or around the blooms. Tarnished plantbugs are notorious at feeding on buds, flowers, young developing fruit, or plant terminals. When they sucked the plant juices, they emit an enzyme that breaks down the plant causing bud loss, deformed fruit and other damage. We have no threshold for tarnished plantbugs in sesame but if you are finding them rather easily in your sesame fields you might want to consider spray treatment. If you have any concerns or issues concerning sesame you can call me 956 968 5581.



Figure 3: Corn earworm feeding on sesame pod



Figure 5: tarnished plantbugs on sesame blooms

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Table 11. Insecticides Labeled for Control of Insect Pests of Cotton (continued)

Pest	Product Name/ Common Name	Active Ingredient/s	Formulated Rate (# oz or oz/A)	Ib A/A	Acres Treated per gallon/lb	Signal Word	Insecticide Class (*IRAC Groups)	Re-entry Interval	Pre-harvest Interval
Stink Bugs continued									
	Brigade 2EC	bifenthrin	2.6-6.4	0.04-0.10	49.23-20	Warning	Pyrethroid (3A)	12h	14
	Bidrin 8	diclorofos [^]	4.0-8.0	0.25-0.5	32-16	Danger	Organophosphate (1B)	6d	30
	Baythroid XL	beta-cyfluthrin	1.6-2.6	0.013-0.021	80-49.23	Warning	Pyrethroid (3A)	12h	0
	Mustang Maxx	zeta-cypermethrin	2.64-3.60	0.0165-0.0225	48.49-35.56	Warning	Pyrethroid (3A)	12h	14
	Mustang	zeta-cypermethrin	2.8-3.8	0.033-0.045	45.71-33.68	Warning	Pyrethroid (3A)	12h	14
	Silencer	lambda-cyhalothrin [^]	3.2-5.12	0.025-0.04	40-25	Warning	Pyrethroid (3A)	24h	21
	Silencer VXN	lambda-cyhalothrin	3.2-5.12	0.025-0.04	40-25	Caution	Pyrethroid (3A)	24h	21
	Declare	gamma-cyhalothrin	1.28-2.05	0.0125-0.02	100-62.44	Caution	Pyrethroid (3A)	24h	21
	Karate	lambda-cyhalothrin	1.60-2.56	0.025-0.04	80-50	Warning	Pyrethroid (3A)	24h	21
	Warrior II	lambda-cyhalothrin	1.60-2.56	0.025-0.04	80-50	Warning	Pyrethroid (3A)	24h	21
Spider Mites									
	ABBA Ultra	abamectin [^]	2-8	0.00469-0.01875	64-16	Warning	Avermectin (6)	12h	20
	Agri-Mek SC	abamectin	1.0-1.25	0.00547-0.00684	128-102.4	Warning	Avermectin (6)	12h	20
	Oberon 45C	spiromesifen	3-8	0.09-0.25	42.7-16	Caution	Tetronic and Tetramic acid derivatives (2.3)	12h	30
	Zeal 72W/SP	etoxazole	0.67-1	0.03-0.045	23.88-1.6	Caution	Etoazole (10B)	12h	28
	Portal	fenpyroximate	16-32	0.05-0.10	8-4	Warning	METI Acaricides (21A)	12	14
Fall Armyworm									
	Prevathon	chlorantraniliprole	14-27	0.047-0.09	9.14-4.74	Caution	Diamide (28)	4h	21
	Steward EC	indoxacarb	9.2-11.3	0.09-0.11	14-11.5	Caution	Oxadiazines (22A)	12h	14
	Lannate LV	methomyl	24-36	0.45-0.68	5.5-3.5	Danger	Carbamate (1A)	72h	15
	Orthene 97	acephate [^]	16	0.974	8	Caution	Organophosphate (1B)	24h	21
	Blackhawk	spinosad	2.4-3.2	0.054-0.072	6.67-5	Caution	Spinosyn (5)	4h	28
Whiteflies									
	Intruder Max 70WP/Strifer 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 (2.3)	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

Figure 8: Insecticides used on cotton pests, table taken from the Managing Cotton Insects Guide 2018, Texas A&M AgriLife

national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

