



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

This week was very hot and very little wind as the valley dried up and some began to irrigate their cotton this week. Others were finishing up harvesting the rest of the sorghum and corn that didn't get harvested before the big rain event that took place couple weeks ago. Temperatures reached the 100s this week and looks like they will stay at that temperature through next week. Heat units have certainly caught up. See chart.

Heat Units Accumulated till now, July 12th

Year	Since 2-15	Since 3-1	Since 3-15	Since 4-1
2018	2634	2515	2367	2159
2019	2526	2437	2309	2241

Cotton

Lots of open bolls and cracked bolls as we scouted across the Valley. Most fields were very clean across the Valley, but I did receive reports of Verde bug in many cotton fields still fruiting and with immature bolls. Verde bug are light green in color and pierce the immature bolls with their mouth parts and can cause boll deformation. Finding 1 Verde bug per plant warrants treatment. Many growers this week were also spraying mepiquat chloride while other growers in Cameron county around the Lyford area were defoliating their cotton gearing up for harvest. We continue to see high whitefly pressure in the Edinburg area, moderate in Pharr and Donna cotton fields. In Harlingen and La Feria we were seeing couple whitefly but very few in the mid Valley area.



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