



## 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*

Danielle Sekula  
IPM Extension Agent

Volume XLI

Issue 15, July 26, 2019

### General Situation

This week we received some scattered rain showers mainly just a few tenths of an inch but some areas like San Benito, Donna did receive an inch. We had a mixture of sun and overcast conditions as heat units continue to accumulate as harvest time for cotton is upon us.

#### Cotton

Another week scouting cotton across the Valley and overall the crop looked very clean. Many cotton growers along the river seem to be irrigating one last time before they make their way to harvest in the next few weeks. Others were applying their second shot of defoliant this week. Saw several harvesting cotton this week in Willacy and Cameron county, the dryland acres. In the Los Fresnos area we were seeing many Verde bugs (Fig 2) in cotton still with soft immature bolls. Verde bugs can cause boll deformation and damage so its best to control them when populations are present to protect the young bolls as they mature. Throughout the Valley picking up on a few adult whiteflies but populations overall seem to be staying down.

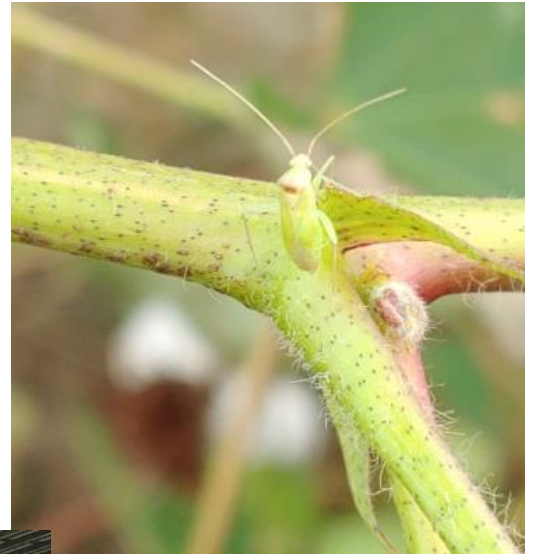


**Figure 1: Various pictures of Cotton in different stages throughout the Valley**



### **National Cotton Council**

Dwight Jackson with the National Cotton Council along with several of our growers (Glen Wilde, Joe Pennington, and Chris Breedlove) here in the LRGV hosted a wonderful group of people from Indonesia. The group was from the Textile Association of Indonesia and they were able to fly into the Valley and view RGV cotton in Harlingen, Sebastian, Lyford, and Raymondville areas. They were able to visit the gin and see some cotton being harvested. Was a really great group and a great way to build trade relations. Plus our Webb Wallace, executive director of the Cotton and Grain Producers of the Rio Grande Valley made sure to give them hats on behalf of CGP of RGV so they would be representing South Texas as they flew into Lubbock for the next part of their trip!



**Figure 2: Verde bug in Cotton**



**Figure 3: Textile Association of Indonesia visiting the LRGV**



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