



## 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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### Cotton

According to Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation as of September 7, 2021, we are currently at 80% cotton harvested but that percentage is sure to have increased from Tuesday with growers continuing to work hard to harvest their remaining cotton crop. Temperatures have been incredibly hot which has been great for cotton picking but this next week could be a challenge for those who still have cotton yet to harvest as we are forecasted for rain.

Aside from harvesting cotton, growers in the LRGV are working hard to control cotton stalks from regrowth of any hostable pin head squares. Growers are shredding and destroying stalks by applying herbicides and plowing. A reminder that today September 10, 2021, is the TDA deadline for all cotton stalks to be rendered non-hostable. Non-hostable cotton is any cotton that do not have viable (live) green pin head squares and bolls for cotton boll weevils to feed and reproduce on. Many fields have been plowed under and others the stalks have been shredded. However,

<b>2021 Total Cotton Acreage Planted:</b>
181,062 ac.
<b>Original Stalk:</b>
4,159 ac.
<b>Defoliated:</b>
33,297 ac.
<b>Picked:</b>
52,647 ac.
<b>Shredded and or Plowed:</b>
59,268 ac.
<b>Destroyed Early Not Harvested:</b>
31,691 ac.

**Figure 1: September 7<sup>th</sup> 2021 cotton acreage report... numbers due to change (Numbers provided by TBWEF)**



**Figure 2: Cotton stalks with regrowth after 2 weeks & close-up of regrowth with pin head squares on shredded stalk**

those who shredded stalks 1 ½ -2 weeks ago need to control the green regrowth on stalks as I saw much regrowth (pinhead squares) in some fields this week and that's all it takes for boll weevils to find them, feed, and reproduce (Figure 2). To paint you a picture, just one female can deposit anywhere from 100-300 eggs in cotton squares or fruit. Then all it takes is an average of 2-3 weeks for an egg to develop into a flying adult that seeks out another hostable cotton plant to feed on and the process starts all over again. You can see how quickly the boll weevil populations can exponentially grow in a matter of a few weeks. Therefore, you

manage and kill the host plant properly (cotton) you in turn kill any chances for boll weevils to reproduce thus greatly helping the cotton industry remain productive not only in Texas but the entire U.S. With the chance of rain around the corner it is imperative that we remain diligent working together with the TBWEF to destroy all cotton stalks and render them non-hostable to combat in keeping boll weevil populations low to none.

\*For more info on herbicides used for cotton stalk destruction click on:  
<https://southtexas.tamu.edu/files/2020/08/Herbicide-use-stalk-destruction-Report.pdf>

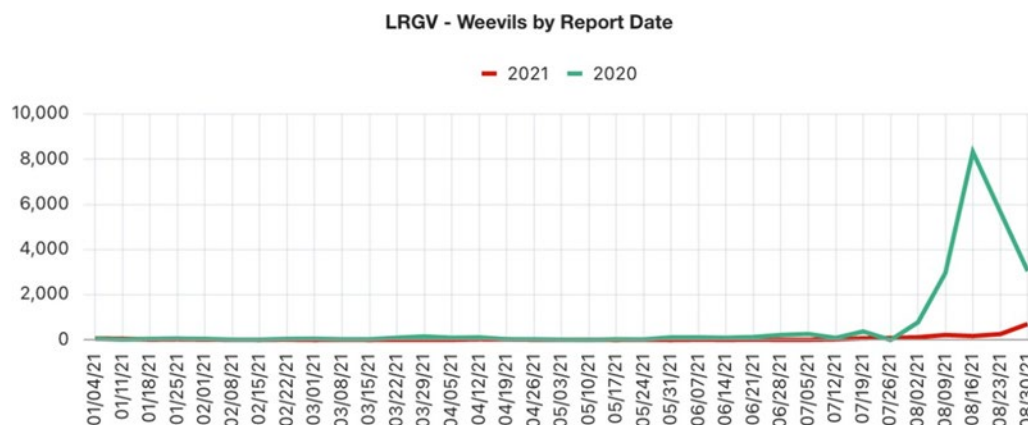


Figure 3: Cotton boll weevil feeding on cotton, photo credit: <http://entweb.okstate.edu/ddd/insects/bollweevil.htm>

### Information provided by Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation:

Date	Category	Description	Total
08/30/2021	COTTON ACREAGE:	2021 Acreage Planted	181,227.90
	TRAPPING INFORMATION (Report Week):	Total Traps Inspected	55,700
		Total Weevils Captured	706
		Weevil Per Trap Average	0.01268
	TRAPPING INFORMATION (YTD):	YTD Traps Inspected	1,243,640
		YTD Weevils Captured	2007
		YTD Weevils Per Trap Average	0.00161
	TREATMENT INFORMATION (Report Week):	Number of Acres Treated	28,675.59
	TREATMENT INFORMATION (YTD):	YTD Acres Treated	701,678.21

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 YTD
Season Long per Trap Average	.01787	.04999	.02503	.02227	.00161



All these reports and more info can be found at:

<https://www.txbollweevil.org/>

### Thank you, Cotton & Grain Growers, for your continued support!

Thank you, growers, for continuing to support your local row crops IPM program. Thank you for allowing us to continue to scout your fields to provide information on pests and such in your area. A big thank you to all those growers who I call and bug from time to time to help me out with various things, just thank you, you know who you are!

### Thank You Sponsors for your continued Support and Contributions!

Thank you Sponsors for your continued support and contributions. Your contributions help our IPM program to thrive by providing funds for scouting, research, etc. to provide our local growers with relevant information important to their IPM program on their farms, and for that I thank you!

#### Valley CO-OP Oil Mill

VALCO

Report #3,

Date: 09/6/2021

County	Week Ending	Total to Date Ginned	In comparison with total to date for same week ending in year shown.			
		(2021)	08/17/2020	(Final) 9/7/2020	(Final) 11/18/2019	(Final) 10/29/2018
Cameron	12,192	27,220	1,426	11,988	156,355	120,143
Hidalgo	6,819	19,366	2,492	10,413	103,345	83,190
Willacy	9,443	30,895	2,180	4,482	103,916	23,013
Valley Total	28,454	77,481	6,098	26,883	363,616	226,346

#### Rio Grande Valley Cotton Ginning Report and Comparison Chart

<u>Gins with reported data</u>		<u>Total</u>
Cameron County	4	3
Hidalgo Country	4	2
Willacy County	3	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>

### Important Announcements

#### 23rd Annual Cotton & Grain Classic Golf Tournament

Sponsored by Cotton & Grain Producers of the LRGV

When: Friday, October 15, 2021 7:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Where: Harlingen Country Club 8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

\*\*\* If you are interested in sponsoring a team or need any info on that please get in contact with Webb Wallace, executive director of the Cotton and Grain Producers of the LRGV.



**The 2021 Master Marketer Program**, developed by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University, **will be held from Sept. 28 through Nov. 11 in Weslaco.**

Participants will meet in person at the **Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 2401 E. U.S. Highway 83**. Morning sessions, with the exception of the optional Leveling Workshop on Sept. 28, will be live-streamed and recorded. Recordings will be made available on the Zoom platform for those unable to attend in person. On or about Sept. 15, instructions to online access will be emailed to registrants.

**The program cost is \$350** and includes noon meals and educational materials.

**Registration is available at:**

[tx.ag/MasterMarketer21](https://tx.ag/MasterMarketer21)

**Program info & flyer available at:**

[tx.ag/Weslaco21](https://tx.ag/Weslaco21)

## Thank You 2021 IPM Pest Cast Sponsors!

### Diamond



- |                             |                  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| *BASF-FiberMax-Stoneville   | *RegalAG         |
| *Bayer-DeltaPine-Dekalb     | *Sesaco          |
| *Farmers Crop Insurance     | *Wilbur-Ellis Co |
| *FMC Agricultural Solutions |                  |

### Platinum



- \*Corteva-PhytoGen
- \*Nutrien Ag Solutions

### Gold



- |                             |                           |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| *Americot-NexGen            | *La Feria Co-op Gin       |
| *Cameron County Farm Bureau | *Simplot Grower Solutions |
| *Capital Farm Credit        | *Texas Sorghum Producers  |
| *Hidalgo County Farm Bureau | *Valley Co-op Oil Mill    |

### Silver



- |                  |                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| *Adams Farms     | *Ross Gin                     |
| *Frisby-Bell Gin | *Valley Ag Insurance Services |
| *RGV Gin Company | *Willamar Operating Co.       |
| *Rob See Co.     |                               |

### Bronze



- \*Bennack Flying Service, Inc.
- \*Vital Fertilizers

**Last but not least, Thank you TBWEF for all your work in controlling/eradicating boll weevil!**

**Thank you everyone for a long but good productive 2021 growing season, take care!**

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.