

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

News about
Integrated Pest
Management in
Hockley,
Cochran, and
Lamb Counties
from
Kerry Siders



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2025 West Plains IPM Update

The *West Plains IPM Update* is a newsletter which provides news of insect, weed, and disease pests, and crop management suggestions for Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Counties. The newsletter is written weekly during the growing season, from June through September. The newsletter will keep you abreast of current pest activity, natural enemies, biological and cultural control tactics, and chemical control options. The newsletter will cover cotton and other major crops grown in the area.

If you know of someone who would like to be included on the email list to receive this newsletter, please have them send me their email address. If your email address changes in the future, please send me an address update. If for some reason you would like to be taken off the list, please let me know.

Hockley, Cochran & Lamb IPM Scouting Program

1. Field scouting for insect, weed, and disease pests in cotton, peanuts, and other crops.
2. Weekly scheduled intervals.
3. Individual field pest report provided.
4. Management suggestions with emphasis on proactive IPM methods.
5. Management suggestions available upon request for irrigation, growth regulators, fertility, harvest aids, and other agronomic considerations.
6. Fall soil sampling for cotton root-knot nematode management suggestions.
7. Irrigated cotton scouting \$7/acre, peanut scouting is \$9/acre. Pricing for dryland and other crops available.
8. Prorated refunds of scouting fees for loss of crop due to natural causes.
9. **Contact Kerry Siders, Extension Agent-IPM for more information at 638-5635 (mobile) or 894-3150 (office).**

Private Pesticide Applicators Training

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service offers an online option for the required private Pesticide Applicators Training (PAT). This training is required by the Texas Department of Agriculture before taking the exam to obtain the license. A private pesticide applicator is a person who uses or supervises the use of a restricted-use or state limited-use pesticide or a regulated herbicide for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity. This license is not for those receiving monetary compensation for a pesticide application. Here is the link for that training process:

<https://www-aes.tamu.edu/how-to-obtain-a-private-applicator-license/>



Paraquat Training Update

The Paraquat stewardship training is facilitated by the National Pesticide Safety Education Center, to help licensed applicators nationwide satisfy the EPA mandated stewardship training. If you have not received this training or your three-year training certification period expires you need to complete this if you use any paraquat formulation. Here is the link for the training website: <https://npsec.us/paraquat> . This training is only available online.

Need On-line Agricultural IPM CEUs?

Visit AgriLife Learn: <https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/>

Search for:

IPM of Insects in Texas Corn

- Scout for pests during their active seasons;
- Explain the impact of biotechnology on pest risks;
- Describe the risks based on regions throughout Texas; and
- Implement control measures for corn pests.
- 1 hour course
- 1 CEU hour – Agricultural IPM
- \$15.00



Scouting Cotton for Insect Pests

- Collect field samples to discover pests;
- Describe basic cotton growth and development;
- Identify and treat common pests; and
- Identify and preserve helpful insects.
- 2 hour course
- 2 CEU hours – Agricultural IPM
- \$25.00



Cotton Scout School

with Kerry Siders

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

1212 Houston Street, Levelland

June 13, 2025

2 Hours of IPM TDA CEU's

For crop consultant workers, farmers and their workers, County Extension agents and their interns, and any agricultural related worker.

9:00 am Start

Weed ID & Herbicide Injury

Cotton Plant Growth and Development

Identifying Cotton Diseases & Nematodes

Cotton Insect Pests & Beneficials

Field Scouting Technique

Wrap Up with Q&A ~ 11:00 am



Educational programs by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, religion, sex, disability, or national origin.

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

Please Consider This:

- ~ Sprayer calibration will ensure proper rate of crop protection chemicals, good coverage, management/control of the pest, and efficient use of input cost.
- ~ Remember the goal of protecting crops from pests (weeds, insects & disease) is to limit yield loss, not to increase yields.
- ~ The use of technology such as Enlist, Flex, and Liberty is no substitute for a good base herbicide program consisting of a preplant incorporated and at-plant preemergence herbicides.
- ~ The use of Bt technologies (Bollgard, Widestrike etc.) does not excuse you from checking your crop for insect pests on a weekly basis.
- ~ The advice of a professional consultant on a weekly basis is much more important in time of economic concern and maximizing necessary production inputs.

West Plains IPM Update is a publication of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service IPM Program in Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Counties.

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