

WEST PLAINS IPM UPDATE

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



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Current Situation

Cotton here on the western South Plains of Texas is all the board from just replanted, waiting on an adjuster to look at, deciding on the options for replant, or a small percentage of cotton acres on the other end of the spectrum which are near squaring. All that said, thank God for the moisture and the next rain which is coming. I suspect most acres will go to grain sorghum, possibly some corn, black-eyed peas etc. I am always positive about the ability of cotton to recover and compensate in many ways, but when stands are inconsistent, skippy, and sub desirable populations (i.e. less than 23,000 on good, irrigated land) then I must draw a line and go to the next option. After Juneteenth I have a hard time recommending going back to cotton.

Here are my priorities from now through mid-July:

- ✓ **Fertility** -where are you at in reaching your realistic yield goal? Adjust accordingly, get it implemented soon, and be done before mid-bloom or end of July, whichever comes first.
- ✓ **Irrigation** - allow plants to root down with this current moisture from rain. As we begin to square up and move into flowering is when irrigation will become critical.
- ✓ **Weed control** – I would encourage producers to continue to utilize glufosinate (Liberty) as long as possible and while we have moisture. I would encourage residual herbicides as well.
- ✓ **Plant map** - what is the plant telling you: Will it need a plant growth regulator with good moisture, heat, and fertility?
- ✓ **Insect scouting** - never let your guard down; watch for thrips on late planted acres; and fleahoppers and possibly Lygus as we move to squaring cotton. Fleahoppers have been noted in field margins.
- ✓ **Foliar Nematicide applications** – if you have a history of cotton root-knot nematodes and possibly failed to get the variety of your choice to best deal with the nematodes or you did not get an at-plant protection out, then your last resort would be an application of Vydate or Return. I like a split application of 8.5 oz 7-10 days apart

UPDATE: BARKER RESEARCH FARM – Morton

- All cotton was planted in research trials and systems trial on May 28-29. Cotton stands are as we had planned with few exceptions and are doing well considering the storms and winds.
- Grain sorghum rotation plot on the north-northwest was planted on June 19. Thank you, Jr. and Todd. We will need to deal with a few existing weeds here real soon. Will most likely heat up some atrazine with oil and get double duty from it.
- Our wheat plot in the north-northeast, which was planted in the fall, will be harvested in the next few days and then summer fallowed. This will provide residue for next year's cotton rotation in that block.



- **WEEDS!** Our priority this week was taking care of weeds coming at us since it rained. All cotton in conventional and minimum till had an application of glufosinate 44 oz. (Liberty), glyphosate 32 oz., plus Warrant 48 oz. at 15 gpa.
- We have a RACE trial with Dr. Ken Lege under the pivot on the high-water spans. There is also a Bayer Deltapine FACT trial in the low-water spans. A Phytogen Innovation trial is located on the east drip block. NO Enlist application will be made here! There is at least a dozen various nematode and disease trials on the west drip block with Dr.

Wheeler, Dr. Rondon, and me.

- If you have any questions about what is going on out there, give me a call. Kerry



If you are interested in receiving the High Plains Pest Management Audio Updates on a weekly basis click on this link and sign-up to receive notifications of the reports:

<https://www.texasinsects.org/signup-high-plains--south-plains.html>

For those of you using an Android phone you may not be receiving the weekly notification that a new report has been released due to a setting on your text messaging system. I am troubleshooting the issue currently as I am having an issue with my cell phone as well. Stay tuned for a fix.

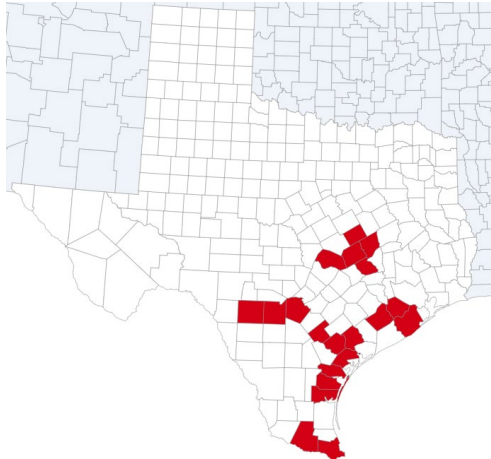
Corn Leafhopper Update

Here is the latest audio report from Dr. Kerns on the corn leafhopper in Texas:

<https://on.soundcloud.com/XBHld9ejYYdMgTdeZx>

Below is the figure of the CLH infestation detection map as of June 12.

Detections as of June 12, 2025



- **Significant infestations**

- Cameron
- Hildago
- Kleberg
- Nueces
- San Patricio
- Refugio
- Goliad

- **Light infestations**

- Uvalde
- Medina
- Victoria

- Bexar
- Karnes

- **Rare finds**

- Wharton
- Ft. Bend
- Brazoria
- Williamson
- Burleson
- Robertson
- Milam
- Falls

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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