

CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

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IPM AUDIO UPDATES

To catch my IPM Audio Updates recorded weekly, you can sign up at: [Rolling Plains/West Texas IPM Audio Updates](#) or click on the QR code below and receive notifications by text when one has been recorded and then listen to it whenever you wish. This is a very brief update about what I am finding around St. Lawrence both pest and crop wise along with what I expect to see in the near future.



COTTON

Temperatures have been warm over the past couple of weeks, but fortunately not near as hot as they could have been. It was this time last year when we went through that blistering hot spell that caused the plants to shed so much, this year however, our temperatures have only been slightly above average and nights have been pretty decent. This crop is holding up fairly well despite the lack of rain for the past month. A couple of areas including right around Garden City and west of Midkiff have received a tenth or two, just enough to wash the leaves off to spray.

We basically have two crops right now, the early crop which is finishing up right on time. Most of it is within about two nodes above white flower (NAWF) to blooming out the top. With our last effective bloom date around August 29th, those final blooms should have plenty of time to mature. On the other end is our late cotton. There are many fields that are still 7-8 NAWF. These fields are not going to have time to finish blooming by the end of the month, care should be taken to not push these fields to long trying to finish those last remaining bolls. It will take above average September & October heat to mature out those late bolls. We generally receive half of our heat units for the month of October in the 1st ten days, so it will have to be much warmer than average to avoid a lot of immature cotton on the top of the plant.

Pest wise, things have slowed down somewhat the past couple of weeks. Fleahoppers are still prevalent in fields scattered around the area but are no longer a concern at this time. Any squares that you protect now will have a very difficult time of ever making a mature boll. In addition to this, our beneficial numbers are great right now and taking a chance of killing them off and flaring aphids is too great of a risk. At least a couple of aphids can be found in most fields and now is not the time to flare them up, not to mention the additional cost of having to treat for them as well. Stink bugs are low in most fields right now as well. I can still find an occasional hot spot, but nothing concerning. It looks like most everything has moved to sorghum or back into pasture. I still highly suggest you continue to scout weekly, remember, things can change very quickly.

SORGHUM

As I mentioned before, there are still a lot of stink bugs in area sorghum. For late planted sorghum that has not yet reached hard dough, be on the look out, their damage can be severe and they can also move into cotton as well. Headworms are still active around the area. In general, we are concerned about the larger (1/2 in or larger) larva. These are the ones doing the most damage.

Upcoming Events:

September 8	Delta Pine Field Day	Hosted by: Doug Jost
September 9	Tri-County Crop Tour	Hosted by: St. Lawrence Cotton Growers
September 10	Scholarship Dove Hunt	Hosted by: GC Junior Livestock Assoc.

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