



Pest Cast

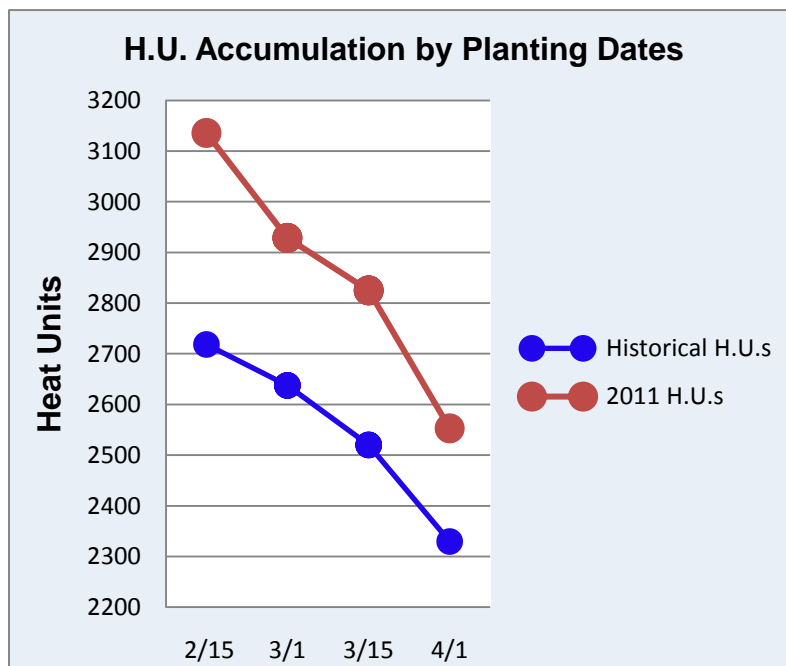
The Row Crops IPM Newsletter for the LRGV, a cooperative project of Texas AgriLife Extension Service and the Cotton & Grain Producers of the lower Rio Grande Valley

John W. Norman, Jr.
Editor

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General Situation: This was another hot and dry week and just what the Doctor ordered for Valley cotton producers. Corn harvesting, long delayed by wet weather starting in early June, was nearing completion this week.



Cotton: Weather, as always, is the key to the production of any crop anywhere in the world. Good weather is also the key to harvesting any crop. There might be a crop which depends on weather being wet for harvest, but cotton is not one of ‘em. While most urbanites in the Valley would love to get another good rain right now, cotton growers need the weather to remain just like it was this week—dry. Bolls were popping very rapidly in all maturing fields and the current weather predictions were for the weather to remain hot and dry for the foreseeable, short term future.

Defoliant were going on as fast as growers could get them put out this week. Harvesting was increasing daily and should continue to increase for the next 2 to three weeks. Some early yield reports on a very small number of dryland fields were reported to be 1+ bales per acre. Based on observations this week though, not all dryland fields have a chance of yielding over a bale. A few reports of 2+ bales per acre from irrigated fields were reported this week. Just like dryland fields, not all irrigated fields will yield more than 2 bales per acre. Many will be lucky to make 1 bale, but most should do much better than dryland fields this year.

Later planted cotton fields were still moving toward maturity. Some of the latest planted fields have a number of weeks to go before defoliant can be applied. Whiteflies were on the

increase in all fields, especially those which have not yet been defoliated. Whiteflies will likely increase faster since so many earlier planted fields have matured out and or been defoliated.

Movement from defoliated cotton fields to green fields will keep whiteflies ever increasing on the later planted fields as this season comes to an end.

A few very light infestations of aphids were observed in spots in fields this week. However, aphids likely will not be an economically yield damaging problem with what is left of this season.

LAST REGULAR PEST CAST ISSUE FOR THIS SEASON

This cotton pest season is about over for the majority of this crop. A small number of fields will be monitored for insect activity for the next few weeks, but they will not represent the cotton crop that is or will be shortly in full harvest mode.

This newsletter was published this year at the request of many of you through the efforts of the Cotton and Grain Sorghum Producer's Association of the Lower Rio Grande Valley and the Texas AgriLife Extension. I am especially thankful for the field input from **Dr. Webb Wallace, Executive Director, Cotton and Grain Producers' Association, Lower Rio Grande Valley and private consultant, Bruce King, private consultant, Mike Grey, Wilbur Ellis, Jim Trolinger, CPS, Dr. Scott Armstrong, USDA-ARS, Weslaco and Dr. Charles Allen, State Extension IPM Coordinator and Extension Entomologist, San Angelo**. This group of gentlemen provided innumerable field observations and editorial newsletter inputs which made writing Pest Cast much easier and a much better publication than it would have been without their valuable assistance.

I would be remiss if I did not thank our Extension partners for all of their valuable help with getting Pest Cast out the door each week. First and foremost, **Ms. Marissa Reyes**, Extension Secretary and the one person on whom I depended most for actual publication, **Ms. Lou Garza**, District Office Manager, and **Dr. Ruben Saldana**, District Administrator, Extension District 12, Weslaco. This Extension team "ponied up" when we needed them the most and did an outstanding job of networking to get Pest Cast out from the first to this last issue.

And last but not least, we wish to thank our sponsors, whose financial contributions made the whole process work. The sponsors are listed in at the back of this issue as have been each week and we would like to extend an additional word of thanks for their support this season. If you have appreciated the information you received in the newsletter each week, thank them for helping with the effort the next time you see them.

We hope Pest Cast answered some of the questions you had during the season. Your thoughts, inputs and even criticism you would like to make will help us improve the newsletter. You can email or write a response to the address listed below. We'd like to hear from you.

**LRGV
BOLL WEEVIL TRAPPING INFORMATION**

YTD	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
	.01516	.01162	.14106	.27060	.23320	1.05369	6.02299

Week Ending	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
4/3/11	.00476	.00672	.19847	.08503	.64118	.48544	0
4/10/11	.00360	.00592	.11633	.30512	.40392	.37552	0
4/17/11	.00114	.00312	.23686	.17102	.36414	.88875	6.47392
4/24/11	.00133	.01426	.38106	.05425	.23751	.15855	3.48685
5/1/11	.00043	.01528	.09081	.09113	.18227	.08629	1.70269
5/8/11	.00077	.00825	.05548	.08168	.07073	.09976	.73028
5/15/11	.00174	.00291	.02454	.07013	.17113	.09204	.72057
5/22/11	.00234	.00140	.10516	.08410	.06717	.20786	.58319
5/29/11	.00177	.00336	.20724	.06413	.07770	.12939	.84931
6/05/11	.00244	.01018	.13857	.04752	.13497	1.0014	.82565
6/12/11	.00720	.00794	.17487	.11127	.03975	.46624	1.77066
6/19/11	.00556	.00766	.06249	.13535	.12318	.32430	6.8556
6/26/11	.00570	.01430	.03580	.49846	.13204	1.44546	14.96033
7/3/11	.05716	.01456	.13756	.30683	.16200	2.17874	7.73737
7/10/11	.10697	.03933	.14793	1.63195	.59710	3.61197	22.70318
7/17/11	.07553	.06099	.06107	1.65666	.33439	4.98724	10.90851

Traps inspected for current week: 46,947

We thank the following sponsors of the Pest Cast newsletter for their very generous contributions toward this effort.



- * Valley Co-op Oil Mil
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- * Monsanto
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- * RGV Gin
- * Harlingen Gin
- * Adams Farms
- * Skalitsky Brothers Farm



Contact Info

Pest Cast Newsletter
 Texas AgriLife Extension Service
 South District 12
 2401 East Highway 83
 Weslaco, TX 78596
 (956) 968-5581
 E-mail: d12south@ag.tamu.edu