



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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Volume XXXVI

Issue 13, June 21, 2013

General Situation

Very hot and dry this week is the current weather status. Thursday brought some short lived rained showers that passed through the Valley rather quickly. All in all insect activity was low with a few exceptions.

Cotton

Cotton continuing to mature well as there were many more white blooms at the tops of the canopies this week as many fields were either at cutoff or very close to approaching cutoff.

The primary pest of concern this week again was the whitefly as fields in the La feria and Brownsville areas were continuing insecticide treatments. Whitefly numbers ranged from 10-40 whiteflies per leaf in most fields with numbers increasing rapidly as leaves begin to glisten with the sticky whitefly secretions.



Whiteflies feeding on cotton



Adult Verde plant bug

Verde plant bugs were on the increase this week as a field in the Rio Hondo area was sprayed when reports of 1 to 2 adult Verde plant bugs per cotton plant were observed. Verde plant bug numbers continue to increase in the Rio Hondo and Arroyo city area. Reports of Verde bugs out in Primera and Combes area were being seen in low occurrences. Verde plant bug adults are about 1/4 inch long in size and are light green in color with long antennae and red eyes. Verde plant bugs feed on squares and small to medium sized bolls. Verde plant bugs will pierce the bolls with their

mouth parts and damage can range from surface feeding to boll malformation to complete fruit loss.



Syrhid fly larvae feeding on whitefly immatures

LRGV BOLL WEEVIL TRAPPING INFORMATION

YTD	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
	.00126	.00747	.00268	.00733	.15796	.11355	.21237	.38834	1.97565

Week Ending	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
3/24/13	.00096	.01617	.00056	.00691	.73856	.14043	.10683	.48544	0
3/31/13	.00435	.03353	.00476	.00672	.19847	.08503	.64118	.37552	0
4/7/13	.00099	.01617	.00360	.00592	.11633	.30512	.40392	.88875	6.47392
4/14/13	.00076	.01572	.00114	.00312	.23686	.17102	.36414	.18005	2.96203
4/21/13	.00060	.00339	.00133	.01426	.38106	.05425	.23751	.15855	3.48685
4/28/13	.00058	.00474	.00043	.01528	.09081	.09113	.18227	.08629	1.70269
5/5/13	.00060	.00136	.00077	.00825	.05548	.08168	.07073	.09976	.73028
5/12/13	.00216	.00096	.00174	.00291	.02454	.07013	.17113	.09204	.72057
5/19/13	.00322	.00485	.00234	.00140	.10516	.08410	.06717	.20786	.58319
5/26/13	.00038	.00426	.00177	.00336	.20724	.06413	.07770	.12939	.84931
6/2/13	.00043	.00339	.00244	.01018	.13857	.04752	.13497	1.00114	.82565
6/9/13	.00107	.00281	.00720	.00794	.17487	.11127	.03975	.46624	1.77066
6/16/13	.00318	.01212	.00556	.00766	.06249	.13535	.12318	.32430	6.85560

Traps inspected for current week: **16,056**

Grain Sorghum



Grain Sorghum being harvested

Many grain sorghum fields being were being harvested this week. In irrigated fields, grain sorghum harvested ranged from 6500 to 8000 pounds per acre. In Combs some growers were harvesting about 7000 to 8000 pounds per acre. In some dryland fields in the Arroyo city area they were harvesting about 3500 pounds per acre. Later planted sorghum in Willacy is at about 10% headed out and is starting to bloom so be on the lookout for midge.

Sesame

In sesame whitefly numbers seem to be light and not increasing. Some feeding on the sesame capsules was observed being done by corn earworms but was very minimal. Also in sesame we are observing adult Verde plant bugs in the fields but have not seen any damage from them. The Verde plant bugs tend to be on the lower part of the sesame plant on the underside of the leaves.



Larvae feeding on Sesame capsule

Soybeans

Many soybean loopers are being found in a few fields. About 4 loopers per sweep were being caught. Check your soybeans for pest pressure.

Corn

Many fields being harvested and waiting to be harvested. No insect pressure reported.

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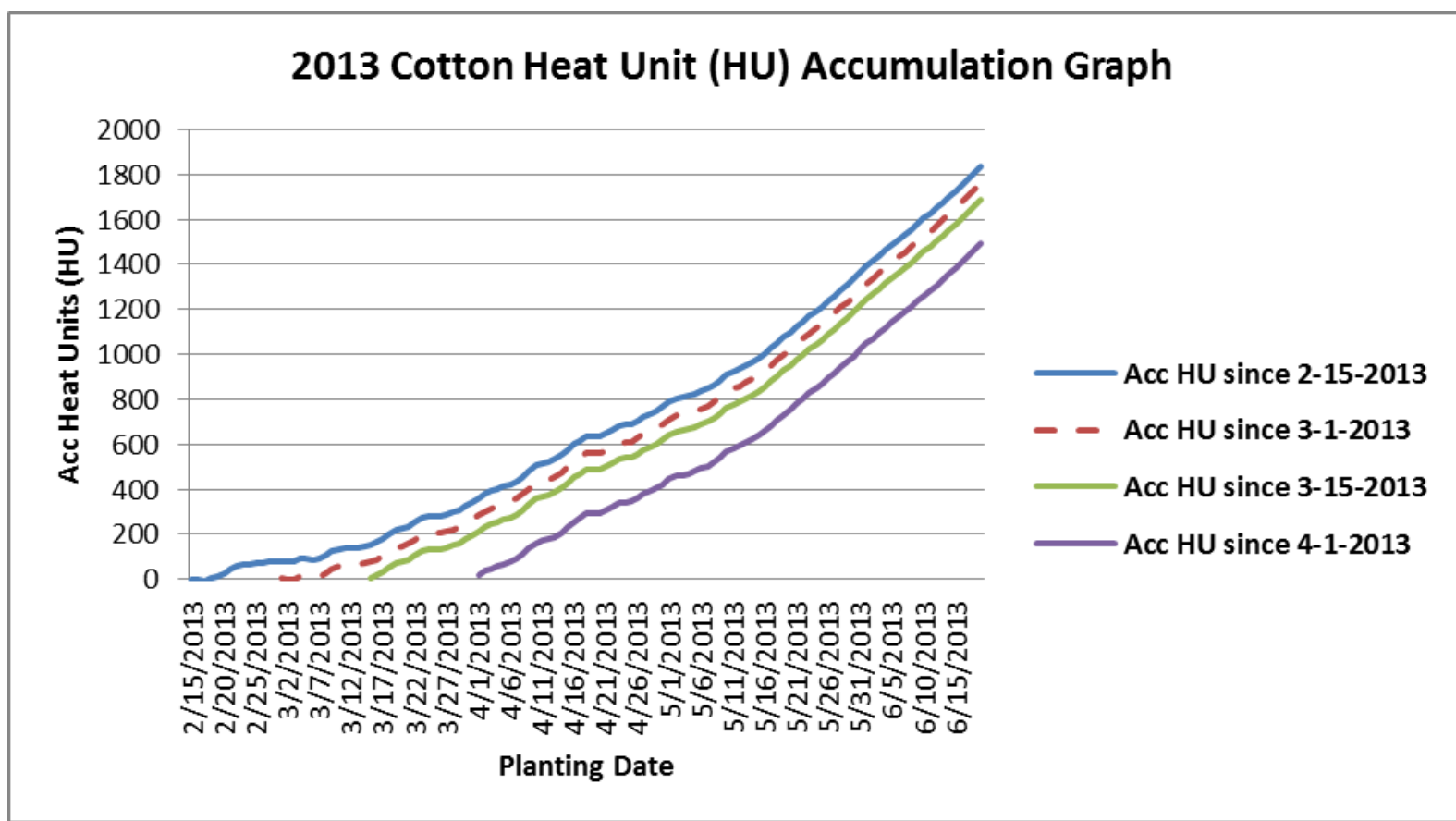
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