



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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General Situation

This week in the Valley was very windy and dry. We started off with a few cool nights but have been heating up and might get a chance for rain this weekend. With warmer nights ahead cotton growth should really start to take off next week.

Cotton



This week we saw the first blooms of the growing season on some of the oldest cotton, those fields planted in February. The majority of fields are squaring heavily with anywhere from 6-12 squares per plant observed. As far as insect activity goes, pressure is still low. Reports of light fleahopper numbers in Cameron and Hidalgo counties were reported along with a few blasted squares. Very light numbers of thrips and spidermites have been reported as well. We are not seeing the abundance of aphids that we were seeing a couple of weeks ago



but there are still some heavier populations in south east Cameron county that we will keep an eye on. The only new addition to the pest pool are recent reports of a few adult whiteflies being observed in some fields. The usual beneficials such as convergent ladybugs, syrphid fly larvae, and scymnus lady beetles were spotted trying to make a comeback from the recent early season spray applications. Heat Units Accumulation Graph on last page.

BEET ARMYWORM TRAPPING

Week Ending	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
3/24/13	0	0	10.2941	0	2.662
3/31/13	0	0	4.44	0	5.960
4/7/13	0	0	3.17949	0	29.80
4/14/13	36.0896	80.0556	10.7143	0	26.31
4/21/13	.15104	14.475	24.5417	0	25.36
4/28/13	24.0909	2.25349	14.6769	0	18.51
5/5/13	15.3864	1.84911	448.31	0	9.145

Traps inspected for current week: 44

LRGV BOLL WEEVIL TRAPPING INFORMATION

YTD	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
	.00099	.01351	.00212	.00986	.24020	.15333	.33301	.44477	3.06271

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

Traps inspected for current week: **28,974**

Grain Sorghum and Corn

This week in grain sorghum no insect activity was reported. Grain sorghum is starting to really bloom all over. With different stages flowering everywhere late planted sorghum is going to be highly susceptible to greater midge pressure. Mid May is usually the time to scout for sorghum midge, as early as May 15th next week.



Corn seems to be maturing well across the Valley with good sized ears and browned silks observed in several fields. This week only reports of heavy egg laying on corn silks around the Santa Rosa area were observed at 2 to 4 eggs per silk. Corn earworm females prefer to lay eggs on green silks so might want to keep an eye out for that. Again when corn earworms reach a cumulative infestation of 10% of larvae eggs in the ears an insecticide application may be recommended.

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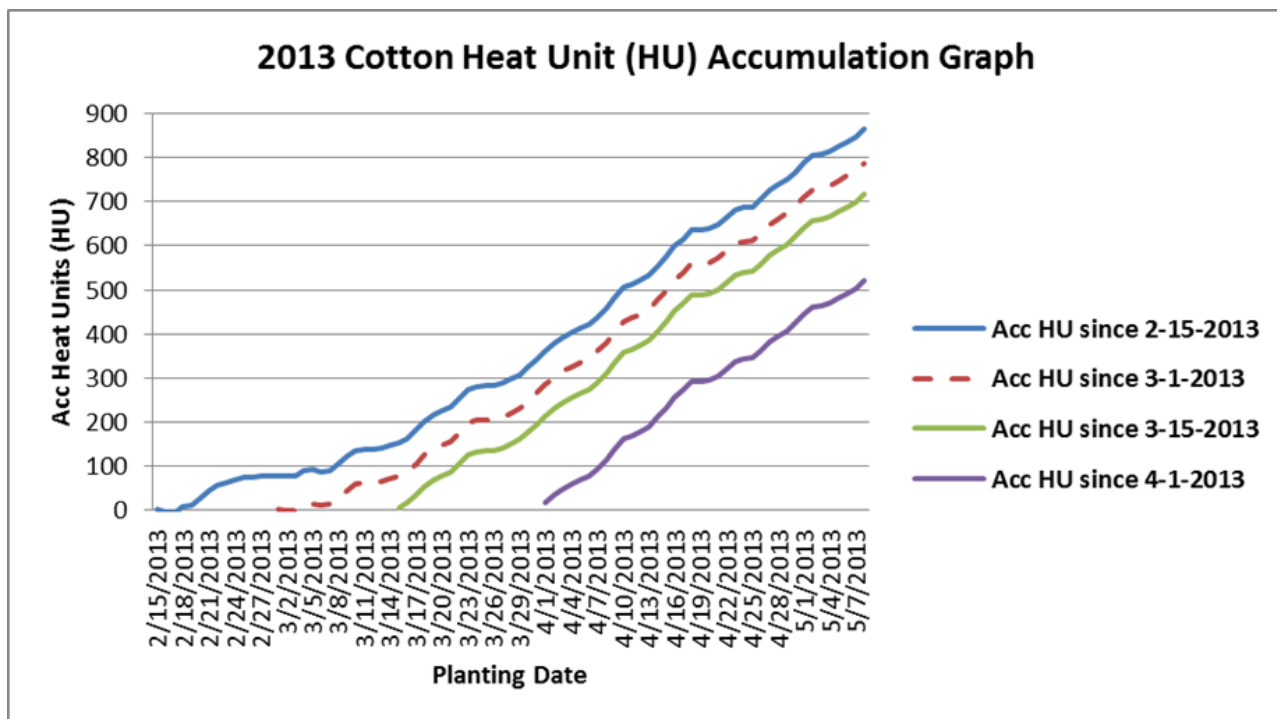
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