CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT



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GENERAL SITUATION

We have finally received the rain that we have been waiting on for so long now. Totals around the area for the past couple of weeks have been anywhere from 1.5-4.5 inches. Enough to get a little dry land up in many places or help the subsoil moisture meet up with the top. The second set of showers that passed through brought a lot of hail and high winds with it. Crops including cotton and corn were completely lost east of Garden City and beat up pretty good around St. Lawrence and Midkiff. We are pretty well finished with planting at this point except for possibly a few replant situations.

COTTON

All-in-all this cotton crop looks pretty good. A lot of it has been beat up by hail, sand blasted, whipped around by the wind, pushed through 1.5 in. crust, been chewed on by thrips, grown through seedling disease, and it is still kicking. Cotton ranges anywhere from just emerged to 3-4 true-leaf stage. That is not including the early planted pima that has 6-8 true-leaves

and is starting to en quite a few calls in weeks concerning the the skippy stands of Seedling disease is for this and fortunateplants will outgrow that were planted pricrusted and in many verely. I have seen crust 1.5-2 inches rotary hoeing these slabs 4-5 inches in the row that the seed-On top of this, the down just soil more element of stress many cases a thrips or



Cotton Seedling Desease-Photo by Jason Woodward, Extension Plant Pathologist, Lubbuck

square. I have takthe past couple of slow growth and many of the fields. the primary cause ly most of these the disease. Fields or to the rains cases, crusted sesome fields with a thick. Even after fields, there are diameter left in ling has to move. rains cooled the enough to add one on the plants. In two move in. nor-

mally not a problem, but in this case, another stress factor which has caused these plants to grow off a little slower. Now that we have seen consistently warmer days the plants are starting to take off. There are instances out there where fields may have large, 3-10 foot skips in them and may require replanting. I know several of you have already replanted many acres. If the stand is decent, just slow growing, give it time, it will come around. I am seeing a few thrips in area fields as are our scouts. Nothing near threshold numbers of 1 thrips per true-leaf through the fifth true-leaf.



DIFFERENTIAL GRASSHOPPER

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MORNING GLORY SEEDLINGS—PREVALENT AFTER THE RECENT RAINS

ON MY RADAR

Folks are always asking me, "What am I seeing, What should I be looking for in the field?" Well honestly there is not much going on right now, but I will let you know what has got my interest anyway. I am seeing some fall armyworms in maize. Numbers are currently very low and maize can withstand a large amount of foliage feeding. 30-50% feeding damage is tolerable. The economic damage occurs when they have fed in the whorl to the point of damaging the head or growing point. I am currently concerned about a 2nd or 3rd generation feeding on the heads later in the season as well as fall armyworm feeding on some of this pima cotton around the area. The Lubbock to Muleshoe area reported a tremendous increase in fall armyworm moth captures over the weekend, so this could be an armyworm year. They are generally worse in dry years, especially in the later months.

I am also seeing an increasing number of Differential grasshoppers coming out of pastures. They do not consume as much as the Jumbo's but they can still eat a lot of pasture, cotton, or anything else green. New Mexico State University recently detected a swarm so large it showed up on their weather radar.

SCOUTING PROGRAM

The scouts for this season are Austin Odom, Colten Hare, Stetson Hillger and Ty Halfmann. We will be operating with a short crew because of lack of applicants. We will still contact and scout a field for all producers but we may cut back on the number of plants checked per field later. Your assistance in helping the scout locate your fields will be appreciated. The scouts are locating one field for each producer at this time. If they have not contacted you by the end of next week, let me know. If you know of someone we left off of the list, give me a call. And also please inform your scouts of any pesticide applications made to the fields that they are checking throughout the season. We need to keep these guys safe.

NEW TDA PESTICIDE TESTING PROCEDURES

TDA has recently issued new procedures for training and testing for their Private Pesticide Applicator Licenses. Training will now be done on a one-on-one basis here at the office when you need your license and then you will schedule an exam through a company called PSI Services which has 22 locations throughout the state. The only location in this part of the state is in Midland, which will work out good for us. The test will be taken on a computer and you will get your results back immediately.