

# CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

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## GENERAL SITUATION

This crop has put up a good fight for the past month, but is now starting to really show the effects of a hot dry summer. The past month has been especially tough. On the brighter side, square sets have been tremendously high with many well over 90%. Many dryland fields were able to build a root system early and go down for deep moisture, especially the later cotton. With the tremendous fruit loads, we are just now starting to see some fruit shed. Most all fields have reached cutout with the majority between 2-5 NAWF.

## STINK BUGS

Stink bugs have been very difficult to find over the past couple of weeks. About a month ago I could readily find them in volunteer cotton and starting to move into some milo from pastures. Now they are almost non-existent. My thoughts are that they have moved back to the pastures with this second bean crop. I do need to spend a little more time checking some mesquites to verify this. I have found some locations where punctured bolls ran 15-20%, but still no stink bugs. These fields were always surrounded by pasture. I like to always find insects present before making an application, but stinkbugs can be difficult to find and you don't want to lose yield hunting for them. Start by splitting bolls.

## APHIDS & MITES

Cotton aphids are still a very sporadic pest in the areas, but are present. I will occasionally pull a plant or even 2-3 plants together that are infested with aphids, however I will not be able to find any more aphids throughout the field. Low numbers can actually help build our beneficials up, as long as we don't have to spray and knock them out. I am not too worried right now but I would keep my eyes peeled.

I was visiting with Dr. Allen last week and he told me that he was finding spider mites quite frequently in the typical dry, dusty locations along turn-rows, etc.. Especially where the cotton was blanketed in dust. I have been concerned about mites over here and have been checking, but so far I haven't found any.



Conchuela Stink Bug

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## SUGARCANE APHIDS

Sugarcane Aphids (SCA) have not only been found in the St. Lawrence areas, but several fields have had to be sprayed. Fortunately, just because you have SCA doesn't mean you need to make an application. Some fields can go a week others a month before reaching economic levels. Remember the threshold is 50-125 aphids per leaf from 40 leaves sampled randomly throughout the field. Sample both upper and lower leaves. Most of the early milo should be okay, it is the late crop we might really have to watch.

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## Kellermeier Wheat Variety Trial

	% Moisture	Test Wt.	Bu/Ac
TAM 114	11.7	61.4	37.43
WB 4458	11.2	59.9	36.62
Winterhawk	11.7	61.6	35.05
TAM 401	11.4	58.9	34.48
Deliver	11.2	60.4	33.19
Grainfield	11.0	58.0	33.10
TAM 204	11.0	58.6	30.70
TAM 111	11.0	60.6	29.15
Duster	11.2	60.9	27.72
TAM 113	11.8	61.5	27.02
Weather-master	11.0	59.6	21.61

### TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, August 11	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, August 12	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop
Tuesday, August 18	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, August 19	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop

	May 10	May 20	June 1	June 10
Daily ET	.37 in/day	.37 in/day	.37 in/day	.15 in/day
Previous 7 day	2.22 in	2.22 in	1.46 in	.51 in
Total water use	12.41 inches	10.70 inches	4.68 inches	2.79 inches

### HEAT UNITS

Heat units have averaged 25 per day for each of the past two weeks. Heat units since 5/10, 5/20, 6/1, and 6/10 are compared with last year and the five year average in the table below. Although we have generated an enormous number of heat units, the crop hasn't necessarily sped up. Temperatures over 95 degrees generate HU's but don't necessarily increase growth.

DATE	5/10	5/20	6/1	6/10
2015	1571	1470	1364	1212
2014	1608	1497	1349	1145
5 Year AVG	1794	1677	1461	1268