

CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

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GENERAL SITUATION

In general, things are better around here than they have been in a very long time. Plant stands look great and cotton has made some great progress the past two weeks with the warm temps and sunshine. Unfortunately, so have the weeds and the wind has not cooperated lately. Most folks are doing a good job of cleaning up fields and are about caught up. Most cotton is 2-6 true-leaf stage.

FERTILITY

Several folks have been asking about fertilizing dryland cotton and if so, how much. In my opinion this is the year to really try and make a dryland crop. A 1 bale cotton crop will require 50 units of N, 30 units of P and 20 units of K per acre. With the soil moisture that we currently have plus a little help from mother nature, 1 bale dryland is not unrealistic. I know with current prices most folks are not wanting to spend much money on this year's crop and I understand that, but I also see this as an opportunity to boost T-yields that could pay returns for the next 10 years. I would not be too quick to just plant it and forget it until harvest time.

GRASSHOPPERS

Grasshoppers are still present especially along Hwy 33 in Glasscock County and to the East. This past rain appears to have kept the pastures and ditches green enough that they are not moving into cotton yet. I would still keep a close eye on them.

FLEAHOPPERS

I have already had one report of fleahoppers in a field by Garden City. With the abundance of rain and weeds this year we may have plenty. Look for fleahoppers as we get closer to squaring. Our threshold is 25-30 fleahoppers per 100 terminals.

MILO

With much of this milo crop headed out or about to, Fall Armyworm (FAW) now becomes more of a concern. In many of the fields that I have checked they appear to have cycled out. I cannot find any moths flying around which leaves me to believe most of the worms are still in the pupa. So we may have 2-4 weeks before the moths emerge, mate, lay eggs, and the young larva begin feeding in the head. We still need to watch for this next generation. The simplest way to sample is to take a white bucket and beat the heads inside. This will knock off worms, stinkbugs, ect.. and allow you to count them



Cotton Fleahopper

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Cracking Cotton

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Open Cotton

IRRIGATION

When do we start our pumps back up? I've been asked this several times and the answer is it depends. How big is your cotton, do you need to inject fertilizer, how much does it cost you to put out an inch of water, when do they read your meters, well capacity and will you get any rain this weekend. Cotton planted in May that is squaring is currently using about .07 inches a day. June cotton is using about .02 inches a day. Obviously the late cotton can go longer before needing water. Several folks are fertilizing right now and if putting fertilizer through their drip then obviously they will have to turn it on. I have been suggesting to growers for quite a while now to figure what it cost you to put out an inch of water. This way you can make the determination of whether applying 1 inch of water will pay for itself. When at all possible you want to avoid demand charges for only 1 or 2 days of pumping. I know everyone is aware of this, but we don't want to get behind and get caught. Well capacity is probably the most important factor. The smaller your capacity the earlier you will have to start to avoid getting behind. Tape spacing effects this the same way. Finally, will it rain this weekend? If we get 1-1.5 inches this weekend we will not have to worry about it for a while.

	May 10	May 20	June 1	June 10
Daily ET	.068 in/day	.068 in/day	.0217 in/day	.0217 in/day
Total water use	1.36 in	1.36 in	.52 in	.33 in

Heat units averaged 18.3 per day this past week and 17.64 per day 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 finally started to accumulate a fair number of heat units, we could still use a little warmer temperatures. Over the past 2 weeks we only had 2 days where we accumulated 20 heat units and only 5 days for the month of June.

DATE	5/10	5/20	6/1	6/10
2015	648	548	441	290
2014	765	654	487	302
5 Year AVG	895	779	562	370

WEEDS

Weeds have been an ongoing battle for sometime now which in general is a good thing. This at least means we have had enough rain to grow weeds along with our cotton. Due to the moisture we've had many of the bigger pigweeds have been harder to cultivate out. I'm also hearing reports and have checked one field where glyphosate is not controlling pigweed. In all cases weeds all around were completely controlled with the exception for 1 or 2 weeds. These weeds must be pulled by hand or hoed and if a head is forming completely removed from the field. Remember, under optimal conditions 1 pigweed can produce up to 1/2 million seeds and we have had pretty good growing conditions here lately. One option if glyphosate is not working 100% or if you would like to switch things up is Liberty. With the higher humidity that we have had this year, Liberty will work much better and it would be good to rotate chemistries. However, if pigweed is your target weed, do not mix Liberty and Round up. Your control will be reduced compared to using Liberty alone. Also be sure you get good coverage. Coverage is more critical than with Round up. An added bonus is that it will take out non-liberty tolerant (GLT and GLB2) volunteer cotton. Several growers have experienced "burned" or spotted leaves on cotton the past week after making glyphosate applications. A couple of things have been common in each situation, glyphosate and hellfire were used and they let it sit in their tank over night. It appears that the hellfire is pulling residual aim out of the tank and hoses. I would avoid letting it sit overnight. Hellfire works just fine and a lot of folks like it. Also, powermax generally has all of the surfactant in it required and no additional surfactant or coc is needed.



Glyphosate and Hellfire injury

SCOUTING PROGRAM

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.

Liberty Tolerant Varieties

FM 1830 GLT	FM 2334 GLT
FM 1900 GLT	ST 4747 GLB2
FM 1944 GLB2	ST 4946 GLB2
FM 2007 GLT	ST 6448 GLB2

TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 30	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, July 1	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop
Tuesday, July 7	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, July 1	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop