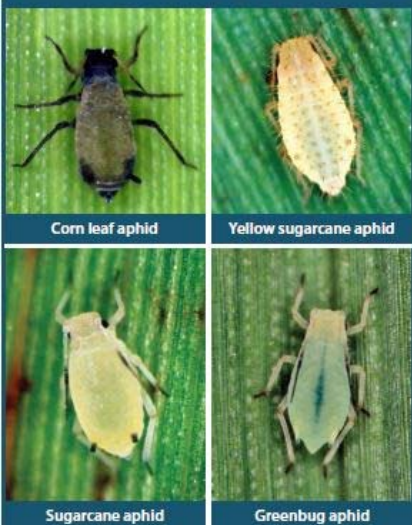


CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

July 10, 2015

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The aphid that damages sorghum is taxonomically indistinct to the sugarcane aphid (*Melanaphis sacchari*), and it might be a new biotype that switched hosts or an invasive species recently introduced into the United States.



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GENERAL SITUATION

All-in-all this crop is finally starting to turn the corner and grow off. We have quite a few fields that look really good, a lot of pretty good, and a few that just will not seem to grow. Most cotton is at 6-8 true leaves and starting to square. A couple of fields were just planted and some are blooming for about the 2nd week. Over all things look pretty good, we are just a little behind.

SUGARCANE APHID

Sugarcane aphids (SCA) were found two weeks ago in Runnels and Tom Green Counties by Dr. Charles Allen. Since that time, he has confirmed more in Water Valley and they have also been found in Lamesa and Lubbock. Now that we know they are in the area it appears only a matter of time before they reach the St. Lawrence area. Last year Rick Minzenmayer reported finding SCA on July 21. Nine weeks later on Sept. 8, I found our first colonies. Of course several factors including prevailing winds and population densities will affect their movement. The important thing is to keep an eye on your milo, haygrazer, and even the johnsongrass around the field. Identification is critical, we have some greenbugs in the area that can cover the underside of leaves and at first glance make you think you have SCA. However, cost to control greenbugs is quite a bit less than SCA. Currently Transform at 1.0oz/ac and Sivanto at 4.0-7.0oz/ac are labeled and suggested for control. If you think you have SCA in a field please give me a call. Additional information can be found at txscan.blogspot.com/

FLEAHOPPERS

Fleahoppers are kind of hanging out, keeping to themselves and minding their own business right now which is good. My biggest concern is that they are out there building up numbers on weed hosts and as soon as they dry down or mature the cotton will be hit hard. At this point I have a hard time finding fleahoppers except in the earliest planted cotton. Fields that I have checked are running 2-5 fleahoppers per 100 terminals. Our threshold is 25-35 per 100 terminals with a 95% square set the first week of squaring, 85% the second week, and 75% the third week. Pesticides used for this area include Orthene, Intruder, Centric, Bidrin and Transform.



FLEAHOPPER

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**PESTICIDE APPLICATORS
TRAINING @ MIDLAND
COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
ON JULY 15, 2015 AT 9:00 AM**

IRRIGATION

A lot of questions are floating around about when to turn the water on, do you just fertilize, turn it on and leave it, etc.. This decision should be taken on a field by field basis. Of course moisture conditions and plant stage are the two biggest factors. If you have fields that missed the last couple of showers or if they were planted a little earlier and are blooming or are very close, then you might want to get it going. Especially with the forecast that we have for the next 10 days to two weeks. On the other hand, if you have received some good rain, have later cotton, maybe just gave it a shot with some fertilizer then you should be okay for a couple of weeks. Right now 6/1 cotton is only using about .37 in/week and 6/10 cotton is using 0.18 in/week. Looking at a lot of this slow growing cotton, it appears to be a combination of water-logged and compacted soils. The roots need a little air down there to help the plants start growing. Many fields have taken off after being cultivated. The important thing is that we don't wait too long and get behind on our water, especially with this hot dry spell in the forecast.

| | May 10 | May 20 | June 1 | June 10 |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Daily ET | .29 in/day | .11 in/day | .057 in/day | .057 in/day |
| Previous 7 day | .91 in | .50 in | .37 in | .18 in |
| Total water use | 2.72 inches | 1.85 inches | 1.20 inches | .64 inches |

HEAT UNITS

Heat units averaged 18.2 per day this past week and 17.8 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 not been generating a tremendous amount number of heat units so far, we are not too far behind. Our May cotton is about 2 weeks behind and our June cotton is 7-9 days behind. If you take out the unusually hot year of 2011 from our avg, then we pick up 3-4 days in May and 2 days in June.

| DATE | 5/10 | 5/20 | 6/1 | 6/10 |
|------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 2015 | 897 | 796.5 | 690 | 538.5 |
| 2014 | 1052.5 | 941.5 | 774.5 | 589.5 |
| 5 Year AVG | 1205 | 1097 | 855 | 664 |

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System, US Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

TURNROW MEETINGS

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday, July 14 | 9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop |
| Wednesday, July 15 | 9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop |
| Tuesday, July 21 | 9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop |
| Wednesday, July 22 | 9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop |