

# CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

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THANK YOU

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Bayer Field Day 9/26

Phytogen Field Day 9/28

## COTTON

With the extremely warm temperatures that we have had this week, this crop is progressing quickly. I know quite a few meter readings are coming up this week and I have been visiting with folks about shutting off water. Hopefully, you have not gotten too aggressive in shutting it off this year. The fields that have a decent 1.5-2.0 bale crop with 25-30% of it open were still using a significant amount of water. Many of these type fields will still use .20 of an inch/day or more in this type of heat. I have seen some small boll shed that we otherwise should have time to mature out. Of course, if the hottest spots are on the back end of your water cycle then there is not much you can do but pray we get some rain out of this system coming and at least cooler temperatures.

We have now reached the point in the season when we have to make some of the most critical decisions of the year. When to finally terminate this crop, what product or products to use, and at what rates. These are decisions that cannot be taken lightly and you cannot necessarily do what your neighbor is doing or do the same thing on every farm. Typically we recommend killing a crop when the uppermost 1st position open boll is four nodes below the uppermost harvestable boll, or 60-70% of harvestable bolls are open.

However, these two methods do not always correlate with one another and you have to find a happy medium between the two. This is where the art of defoliation comes in. Decisions must be made on a field by field basis and overall maturity taken into account. There are four categories of products, defoliants, regrowth inhibitors, boll openers, and desiccants. Some of the products will do more than one job such as defoliating and inhibiting regrowth. The latest [2017 High Plains Cotton Harvest Aid Guide](#) is available on the Lubbock TAMU website. For a little added weed control this fall consider using a PPO inhibitor such as AIM.

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## SORGHUM

We still have a few blocks of late sorghum around the area and if we get some rain this week they will make some pretty good grain. SCA are in all of the fields, anywhere from high to you really have to look to find them. Here's to hoping we get that rain.

## WHEAT

A few acres of wheat have already gone in with more soon to follow. One thing to keep in mind this time of year is the fall armyworm. One of my three traps still had very high numbers and the other 2 had moderate levels. If you are looking at planting wheat now for grazing, make sure your field is completely clean. You want to till or spray all volunteer and weeds and ideally keep it clean for two weeks. This will break the "green bridge" and starve out any FAW surviving in the field. Then all you have to worry about is moths coming in and laying eggs. Still a possibility, but at least you did what you could do. The [Top Wheat Varieties for the 2017-2018 Season](#) have been released by the Lubbock Center.

I have some seed on hand if anyone is interested in putting any wheat variety trials in this fall. Just give me a call

## UPCOMING FIELD DAYS

We have two more field days this week. Bayer will have one Tuesday September 26th at 9:30a.m, and Phytogen will have one Thursday September 28th at 10:00a.m. Both of these field days will start out at Eric Seidenberger's corner farm on CR 110.