

CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

July 6, 2018

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COTTON

Please God,

*Send us a good,
soaking rain. Make us
aware that everything is a
gift and nothing should be
taken for granted.*

Amen

Not a lot has changed over the past couple of weeks and yet at the same time a lot of progress has been made. A couple of showers have passed through the area and blessed a few folks with a little rain. As always, some more than others. A couple of areas received better than an inch while others not a drop. High winds and hail have accompanied these storms which is common this time of year. These little showers have allowed folks to catch up with their water a bit, or perhaps start banking a little as we enter peak demand. These cooler temps could not have come at a better time for this crop, it is still perfect cotton growing weather but the ET will be much lower. For nearly the next week this crop will be able to catch it's breath.

Most cotton ranges between 4-9 true leaves with a few fields that have been replanted to wildcat cotton and some that are still only at 1st true leaf. Others are 13-15 true leaves and just about what we would call bloom. Next week they will be there. Square sets run anywhere from 81.8%-91.8%

With the dryland crop taken out we are now down to a fraction of our irrigated crop. However, this irrigated crop overall is not too bad despite being a little uneven. With every shower we get the prospects for a decent crop grow. Weed control is becoming more important every day. We cant let weeds get too large before trying to control them, especially with 2,4-D and dicamba. They get harder to control and use up more moisture. Insects still are not much of an issue in cotton. There are a handful of cotton fleahoppers scattered about, but not in numbers high enough to be concerned with. I have picked up a couple of stinkbugs along with the scouts. It's a little too early to be concerned about stinkbugs but they might be indicating what the future holds for us. At this time my biggest concern is spidermites. They are currently in every corn field at fairly high levels. They are also in all sorghum and watermelon and I have seen them in landscapes. It may be a matter of time before they show up in cotton. I would do everything I could to preserve my beneficials and not spray unless absolutely necessary.

ST. LAWRENCE PEST MANAGEMENT
BRAD EASTERLING
EA-IPM
GLASSCOCK, REAGAN, UPTON COUNTIES
PO Box 299
GARDEN CITY, TX 79739
432-354-2381 (o)
940-256-1524 (m)



CORN & SORGHUM

Corn has a lot of mites in it right now but most everything appears to be dented and at least 1/2 starch. This is the point where you can terminate your irrigation, provided you have decent soil moisture, much like cotton. Again, these cool days will help. Sorghum still has a little longer to go and with a shower or so has great yield potential. Still we are about one month away from when we generally start seeing sugarcane aphid. Any late sorghum needs to be sugarcane aphid tolerant.



WATERMELON

Melons are being picked as we speak and everything I have seen and heard says it's a good crop. Keep spider mites in mind and try to rotate active ingredients when possible. Those little beggars are good at developing resistance.

TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, July 10	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, July 11	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop
Tuesday, July 17	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Thursday July 18	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop