

CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

July 20, 2018

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COTTON

If you would like to be added
to our newsletter mailing list
please email
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THANK YOU

This cotton crop is really starting to make some progress, despite the heat. If you have your pumps turned off at this time, pay close attention to your soil moisture and do not get behind. Water use in cotton has increased tremendously over the past two weeks, especially last week as more cotton has begun to bloom and temperatures increase. Many fields are showing signs of stress in the afternoon due to lack of water. This heat will most likely lead to some pollination issues as well.

Overall the crop is progressing well just like we would like to see. Most all of the May planted cotton is now blooming and June is not far behind. This cotton is progressing fairly quickly. As in most years, water is the limiting factor, if you can feed it, it will grow. The majority of this crop is squaring with a fair amount now blooming. Fleahoppers are basically nonexistent at this time. Square sets remain very good, the down side is that without significant rain we are going to have some significant square shed before long. It may be all at once, or a little at a time but we cannot handle all of this fruit. Fortunately, the beneficial population continues to slowly increase. Do what you can to protect them. As a whole, we do not have a great need for PGR's this year. Nature can be your best growth regulator. As you set more fruit, your short on water, manage your nutrition, and you will not need any PGR's. Of course certain varieties and some fields grow off more than others and require more maintenance. Treat each field and variety separate to avoid forcing some cotton into early cut-out.

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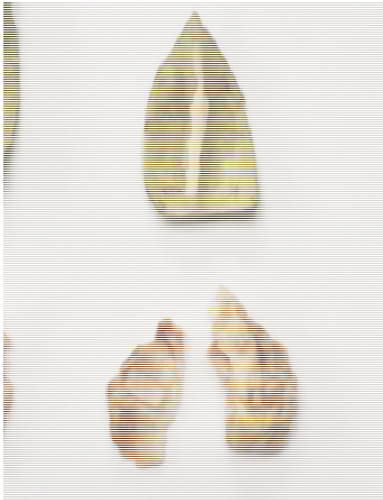


TURNROW MEETINGS

Tuesday, July 24	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, July 25	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop
Tuesday, July 31	9:00 a.m. Glasscock Coop
Wednesday, August 1	9:00 a.m. Midkiff Coop

COTTON CONTINUED

Several bugs are showing up on our radar that need to be monitored. Stinkbugs have been showing up early in some of the well watered cotton around Garden City. A couple of fields have already been treated. I know this seems early, but I have found a couple of small bolls, generally considered too small to be attractive to stinkbugs which were stung multiple times and the lint was completely stained. These were



Stinkbug damage to lint

the largest, most attractive bolls in the field. Keep an eye out for stinkbugs in your blooming cotton. We are also seeing higher bollworm moth numbers each week. We are still probably 1-2 weeks away from the peek flight so keep an eye out. I am now starting to see spider mites showing up in cotton. They are exactly where we would expect to find them, along turn-rows and roads with a lot of dust. In many cases the beneficials are taking care of them and I can only find a little webbing. The important thing to remember is take care of those benny's, they can save you a lot of money in the long run. Along the same lines, we are still finding the occasional plant with 20-50 aphids on it. Nowhere near threshold, but enough that they could flare up if you killed off the beneficials.



Boll with stinkbug damage

CORN/SORGHUM

Corn is basically finished and with this heat it will be now. The good news is if you have not shut off your water you need to and move it to your cotton. The handful of early sorghum fields are bloom to soft dough. Head worms are active so keep an eye out. Feeding in the whorl is generally not a concern but in the head we are losing money. However, with the price of sorghum and cost of control, we can tolerate a lot of worms per head or acre. At this point in time, sugarcane aphids have not been found in Glasscock, Reagan, or Upton Counties.