

CROP MANAGEMENT REPORT

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ST. LAWRENCE PEST MANAGEMENT
BRAD EASTERLING
EA-IPM
GLASSCOCK, REAGAN, UPTON
COUNTIES
PO Box 299
GARDEN CITY, TX 79739



IPM AUDIO UPDATES

To catch my IPM Audio Updates recorded weekly, you can sign up at: [Rolling Plains/West Texas IPM Audio Updates](#) or click on the QR code below and receive notifications by text when one has been recorded and then listen to it whenever you wish. This is a very brief update about what I am finding around St. Lawrence both pest and crop wise along with what I expect to see in the near future.



COTTON

For all practical purposes we have finally come to the end of a hectic and strung out planting season. The long awaited rain that we have been waiting on has finally arrived, and though there have been many inconveniences with the rains, after everything that we have been through these showers have been a blessing. There have been multiple fields with extensive damage, a lot of replanting, rotary hoes running hard, and slow emergence along with a few fields that may not get planted in the end. Still, this country is a far cry from what it looked like a month ago.

Slow and erratic emergence has been an issue for quite a few folks throughout the area this season and I have been questioned about this multiple times. It appears to be most likely just very cool, wet soil, cool, cloudy days, and a little seedling disease along with one or more rains of varying intensities that may have packed the ground. I cannot tell that any particular variety or companies varieties are having a more difficult time coming up than any other. For over a month now our high temperature has only averaged 86° and we are averaging 62° at night. The high and especially the nighttime low is quite a bit below average, especially for the past two weeks. Even with the cooler weather that we have been having, larger seeded varieties are performing about the same as smaller seeded varieties under these same conditions at this time. Fields that have been consistently under water or extremely wet have become waterlogged and are lacking oxygen in the upper several inches of the soil. This has a lot to do with why many fields looked better two weeks ago than they do today. When feasible a cultivation will help air out the soil as well as take care of the weed explosion we are seeing.

Nitrogen levels should be considered and evaluated in fields which have stood in water for extended periods of time. As the water slowly soaks in it also leaches nitrogen through the topsoil. If these are smaller, localized areas, you may be able to knife in fertilizer, if the entire field was submerged then additional N will need to be applied.

Most everyone already has resistant careless weed, and we have confirmed dicamba resistant careless weed in Martin county, so multiple MOA's is a must to try and prevent them from moving into your field.

COTTON, CONT.

We have been looking at several more difficult to control weeds this year with the number of acres that were planted into no-till. Many of these weeds, such as Globe Mallow are perennial pasture weeds that have been growing around pads and we generally are able to plow them out. Without plowing, glyphosate alone is not taking care of them. I am looking at a couple of things to control them right now, and I think a tank mix of 2,4-D and dicamba will control them.

Grasshoppers are still around, however they do not seem to be a huge problem at this time. Of course every time I say this they blow up some place and we end up spraying for them. I would definitely keep an eye out for them. Thrips are still not an issue that I have noticed. I believe all of the rain that we have had has done a great job of washing them off and cleaning them up. With it drying out some and with this late cotton coming up I would watch out and make sure we do not get hit here in the next couple of weeks. With the warm temperatures this crop will grow off quickly, but we do not want to set it back.



STINK BUGS

Stink bugs continue to be extremely high in green wheat/triticale throughout the area. This does not necessarily mean that they are going to be an issue later this year, but it is not a good sign. We have had them early and then they left town, and we have had years where we fought them all season. They are not an economic issue in most of this wheat, but we will have to watch them in corn and sorghum and then cotton later on.

Brad Easterling, EA-IPM
Glasscock, Reagan, Upton Counties
PO Box 299
117 S. Myrl St.
Garden City, TX 79739
432-354-2381 (o)
940-356-1524 (m)

breasterling@ag.tamu.edu
<https://glasscock.agrilife.org/ipm/>
<https://www.facebook.com/stlawrenceipm/>



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