



INSECTS AND WEEDS IN FOCUS

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GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

Corn and sorghum are growing rapidly but will need additional rain shortly. Sorghum that did not emerge until after the earlier rainfall is 3-4 weeks behind the remainder of the crop. When the later sorghum blooms it will be under attack by sorghum midge. Cotton is highly variable with some growing rapidly and looking good. Other cotton looks ragged and has been punished by sand damage, high winds, herbicide, aphids and thrips. Expect to see improvement in cotton crop appearance during the next two week period. RDP

COTTON INSECT SITUATION

Aphid numbers are more numerous but often are occurring in spots in fields. Some fields have been treated but we may observe resurgence in aphid populations in these treated fields. Generally, currently labeled insecticides applied at appropriate rates have provided effective aphid control but exceptions have been observed where the control level was not adequate. In the past, control has been hard to achieve when populations increased again after treatment. This is the primary reason Furadan is being granted use under Section 18 provisions. Fields that have not been treated have heavy beneficial arthropod activity and aphid numbers have begun to decline in many such fields.

Fleahoppers are beginning to move into cotton from weed hosts and lay eggs. Nymphs are also being observed which is an indication that some adults moved to cotton about a week ago although at very low numbers. Scout

early fruiting cotton through the first 7-10 days of bloom for fleahoppers. Treatments should be applied for this insect at 15 per 100 plants or in situations where their numbers are below 15 per 100 plants but increasing rapidly. Since we are observing high bollworm moth catches try not to treat cotton very many times for early season insect pests. Potentially, bollworms could cause problems in the next few weeks. RDP

FURADAN APPROVED UNDER SECTION 18

Furadan can be used for cotton aphid control under very strict guidelines in Coastal Bend Extension District 11. The counties include Aransas, Austin, Bee, Calhoun, Colorado, DeWitt, Fayette, Goliad, Jackson, Karnes, Lavaca, Matagorda, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria, Washington and Wharton. The label, instructions and aphids populations required before Furadan can be used are available at your distributor and from FMC. It is critically important to know and follow all the instructions. This product should not be used under our current weed conditions. We could easily lose the Section 18 use of Furadan if it is improperly applied.

A copy of the Section 18 approval notice is available on the TDA web site (www.agr.state.tx.us). Applicators must have a copy the EPA approval notice in their possession when applications are made. **Fields must be posted and WPS requirements observed. Also notify boll weevil eradication personnel, consultants and field scouts that Furadan has been used so they can stay out of those fields or wear appropriate PPE (personnel protective equipment).** RDP

HEAT UNITS FOR COTTON - CORPUS CHRISTI

Date	Daily H.U. ¹	Acc. H.U. ¹	Date	Daily H.U. ¹	Acc. H.U. ¹
Mar	-	250.7 ²	4/12	17.1	436.4
4/1	11.1	261.8	4/13	17.3	453.7
4/2	13.4	275.2	4/14	19.0	472.7
4/3	14.3	289.5	4/15	7.7	480.4
4/4	15.3	304.8	4/16	2.2	482.6
4/5	16.8	321.6	4/17	1.9	484.5
4/6	12.7	334.3	4/18	7.0	491.5

4/7	15.6	349.9	4/19	11.9	503.4
4/8	18.0	267.9	4/20	13.5	516.9
4/9	16.2	384.1	4/21	14.3	531.2
4/10	18.4	402.5	4/22	18.2	549.4
4/11	16.8	419.3			

¹ H.U. = heat units. Accu. H.U.= accumulated heat units
² Monthly accumulation RDP

BOLL WEEVIL NUMBERS LOW

Boll weevils remain at unprecedented low numbers as measured by our pheromone traps and those operated by the Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation. According to Foundation records, peak spring trap catch has occurred during the third week of April during the past two years for the region generally south of the Aransas River. If this trend continues for another month, weevil reduction will be considered dramatic. Currently, boll weevil eradication protocol (early season) calls for field treatment when boll weevil numbers equal or exceed 2 weevils/trap on a 40 acre basis (5 traps catch 2 weevils). However, under the low numbers being observed during early season (pinhead square until first

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bloom), Foundation personnel, at the option of the grower, desire to treat 20 acres around a trap that catches one weevil or 40 acres around traps that catch a weevil two weeks in a row. In order for effective decision making, trap deployment must be complete and they must be maintained properly. Obviously, the objective is to eliminate later treatments under the low weevil numbers being observed at this time. Growers may also choose to apply their own treatments. I would suggest that producers/ consultants discuss the situation with Foundation personnel. RDP

SORGHUM LEAF STREAKING

Symptoms shown below are present on sorghum throughout South Texas. We have observed this situation on many occasions in past years. It is a physiological response of plant tissue to widely divergent temperatures in a short period of time. It is especially noticeable/compounded with the hot period accompanied by intense sunlight. Damage can range from a few cells killed to necrosis of plant tissue. RDP

