



GRAY COUNTY AG NEWS

IMPROVING LIVES. IMPROVING TEXAS

August 2021

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I was reading the West Plains IPM Update from Kerry Siders. Who is the IPM Agent from Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Counties and felt like this was great information to share with you. I realize that they are farther south and growing conditions are different. However I felt that the information was good especially on maturing bolls and cotton quality. The sorghum information is also from the West Plain IPM Update but felt it would be good useful information for producers.

(From West Plains IPM)

Cotton ranges from 5 nodes above white flower to hard cut-out. Ideally cotton will be blooming out-the-top by now; because we have reached that point when the odds of a bloom developing into a quality/yield contributing boll will drop considerable over the next week. In fact, we are seeing some more mature fields beginning to shed squares and small bolls as a final adjustment in what the plant can naturally hold. Be sure though that this fruit shed in natural and not being induced by Lygus or bollworm. Especially in Bollgard II or no technology. Most fields are generally pest free currently. Occasional pockets of cotton aphids, tarnished plant bugs (Lygus), and bollworms can be found. In the case of aphids and worms the beneficials have played a large role in keeping these pest in check. Continue to scout for another twenty days or so. By September 10th majority of cotton acres should have 400 some heat units accumulated on the last bolls set, making them relatively safe from most insect damage. Irrigation has been where most questions are being posed. I will admit I get conservative with irrigation as we move into the last days of August and would rather err on the side of being too dry than too wet going into September. We have already had our chance of making quantity, now it is a matter of achieving quality through maturity. The last bolls set during the time need to be relatively stress free for 20 days (approximately September 1-14th). So, if the plant recovers quickly from any wilting during a +90-degree day then those last bolls formed should mature properly. After 40-45 days (approximately September 30th) the plant can nearly go into permanent wilt, and it should not have an impact on yield or quality. So bottom line—be very careful irrigating here out.

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Grain Sorghum is all over the board maturity wise. Do not get concerned about whorl feeding worms. However, once that head develops then worry about worms. If you are shaking out more than 1 worm (3/8" or larger) per head, then you are going to have to deal with them. The sugarcane aphid continues its march in all directions and building to threshold levels in area fields. We are finding yellow sugarcane aphids, and cornleaf aphids, so do not confuse the three.



This information was taken from West Plains IPM from Kerry Siders.

The Texas AgriLife Extension Wheat Picks and the High Plains Uniform Variety Trail information can be found at the following links.

<https://amarillo.tamu.edu/amarillo-center-programs/agronomy/wheat-publications/>

[2022 Texas High Plains Wheat Picks](#)

[2021 High Plains Uniform Wheat Variety Trial – \(irrigated and dryland\)](#)

The Groom Dryland Variety Plot was once again on the Weinheimer Farms.

Thank you to James Weinheimer and Weinheimer Farms for their continued support of the Texas A&M AgriLife High Plains Uniform Variety Trials for Wheat.

Texas Livestock & Horse Brands Expiring Need to Renew by February

Brands must be registered at the county clerk's office in any county where the livestock resides. If you have livestock in different counties you will need to make sure it is registered in all counties. The registration will require identifying the brand itself, along with the location where the brand or other identifying information is placed on the animal. Every ten years, all livestock & horse brands throughout the state expire.



The next expiration date will be August 31, 2021. Brands holders will have 6 months, through February 28, 2022, to renew their brand registration in each county where they have livestock. If you fail to renew your registration in that timeframe, then the brand will essentially be up for grabs and anyone will be able to select and register the brand in his or her own name. There may be different procedures for the renewal at different County Clerk's Offices, so brand holders should contact the corresponding offices to find out the best way to complete the renewals of the registration.

Please email Gray-TX@tamu.edu to request future newsletter to be sent to your email.

Contact the Gray County Extension Office at 806-669-8033 if you would like to be added to the newsletter mailing list.

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