

Issues in Agriculture

The Newsletter about Integrated Pest Management for the El Paso Valley

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Texas AgriLife Extension El Paso County: <http://elp.tamu.edu/> Pecan IPM Pipe: <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/> TPMA www.tpma.org/

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- You can download this and other IPM newsletters, check updates, and view upcoming events at the El Paso Texas A&M AgriLife Extension IPM website: <http://elp.tamu.edu/integrated-pest-management/>
- Outdoor Burn Ban:** on October 16, El Paso Commissioners Court banned outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County for an additional 90 days. Fire/emergency personnel and the local office of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will maintain this ban. The renewed burn ban takes effect today (October 17) and will expire on January 14, 2015. The Emergency Service District # 2 has a burn permitting process in place for residents who need to burn for agricultural and commercial purposes. The Sheriffs will now need to ask for a burn permit for any outdoor burning in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County. If anyone is found burning without a permit, then a ticket can be issued. Please feel free to contact the Fire Marshal Esparza at (915) 851-0304, if you have any questions. You can find the Burn Permit Application here: <http://www.epcountyesd2.org/fireinspections.asp>

PECAN:

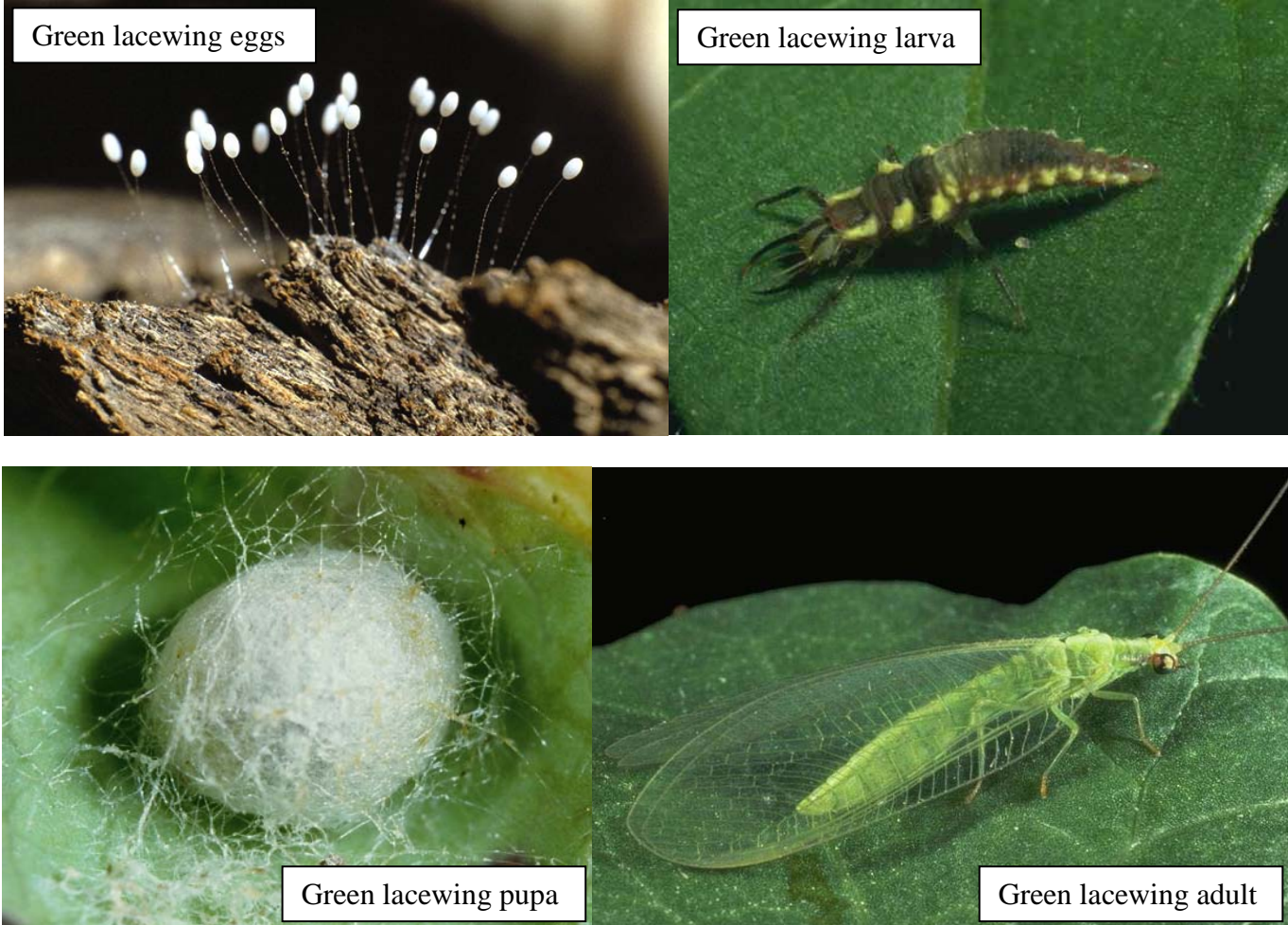
I have been searching for **Blackmargined pecan aphids** (BMA) during the past month and a half with the objective to find a pecan orchard to conduct the insecticide efficacy trial that Dr. Mark Muegge and I usually evaluate every year. However, it has proven extremely difficult to locate a BMA population level that allows us to establish this test.

It is a little late in the season to start this test, but if you have an aphid population level of at least 10 aphids per compound leaf (the action threshold is 25 BMA per compound leaf) in your pecan orchard, please let me know as soon as possible so we can evaluate the efficacy of available insecticide options to manage this pest. Conducting this test not only allows us to identify the best performing products, but also to detect ongoing insecticide resistance.

This is the first time that such low BMA population level has been observed in El Paso in over a decade. An entomologist recently stated: "*I didn't think I'd see the day when pecan aphids were absent.*"

Most pecan growers attribute the lack of aphids to an over abundance of green lacewings. Lacewings are insects notorious for being efficient aphid predators. Over a month ago, "clouds" of green lacewings flying around outdoor lights at night. It is quite possible that green lacewings were able to multiply so much due in part to fewer insecticide applications and/or the use of pesticides that are less damaging to beneficial arthropods. In any case, the

lack of pecan aphids at this time of the year speaks well for the integrated pest management practices conducted by local pecan growers.



Green lacewing pupae or cocoons are often attached to pecan leaves in pecan orchards or to bracts, blooms, or bolls in cotton fields. The green lacewing cocoon is round and resembles a spider egg case. Lacewings, both as larvae and adults, are very helpful insects with an enormous appetite for aphids.

COTTON:

Kerry Siders, Extension Agent IPM (Hockley, Cochran, and Lamb Counties), Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, recently published the results of his cotton harvest aid field trial. Now that cotton growers are preparing to defoliate their crop, I think they will benefit from this useful information. At the end of this newsletter, I am attaching a table showing the performance of the cotton harvest aids included in Kerry Siders' 2014 trial.

The Texas AgriLife El Paso IPM Program is partially supported by the following organizations:

- West Texas Pecan Association
- Ag Market Resources
- El Paso Pest Management Association
- Texas Pest Management Association
- Valley Gin Company, Tornillo

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Table 1. Results of cotton harvest-aid treatments at BJ Kennedy Farm, Levelland, Texas, 2014.

Treatment	Cost of Chemical	Green Leaf % 7 DAT	Dessicated Leaf % 7 DAT	Defoliated Leaf % 7 DAT	Open Boll % 7 DAT	Re-growth 7 DAT	Green Leaf % 14 DAT	Dessicated Leaf % 14 DAT	Defoliated Leaf % 14 DAT	Open Boll % 14 DAT	Re-growth 14 DAT
Folex 16oz + Prep 32oz + ½% NIS	\$15.86	5	45	50	90	1	5	5	90	99	1
Folex 12oz + Finish 32oz + ½% NIS	\$27.34	2	43	55	90	1	1	1	98	99	1
Display 0.8oz + Finish 32oz + 1% COC	\$23.11	1	25	74	95	0	0	2	98	100	0
Ginstar 8oz + Prep 32oz + ½% NIS	\$17.07	1	40	59	92	0	0	1	98	100	0
Display 0.8oz + Prep 32oz + 1% COC	\$11.63	1	69	30	93	1	0	1	99	100	0
ETX 1.25oz + Prep 32oz + 1% COC	\$9.71	1	74	25	95	0	0	2	98	100	0
Aim 1oz + Gramoxone 12oz + Prep 32 + 1% COC	\$13.44	1	69	30	95	0	0	1	99	100	0
Gramoxone 48oz + ½% NIS	\$13.70	0	50	50	99	0	0	10	90	100	1
Check	\$0.00	80	10	10	60	1	45	1	54	82	0

DAT = Days after treatment on October 1, 2014.

17 gal/acre,

<4 nodes above cracked boll, 3 pm.

COC=Crop Oil Concentrate

NIS=90% Non-ionic Surfactant

Regrowth (0-4) 0=none 4=not harvestable due to regrowth

**PROHIBITION OF OUTDOOR BURNING
IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF EL PASO COUNTY**

WHEREAS, El Paso County is under threat of damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from the threat of wildfires due to the winter dry grass conditions and winds that occur during the fall and winter season, and

WHEREAS, the El Paso County Commissioners Court finds that these conditions persist in all of the unincorporated areas of El Paso County, Texas and these conditions create a public safety hazard that would be exacerbated by outdoor burning; and

WHEREAS, the El Paso County Commissioners Court is acting under the authority codified at Section 352.081 of the Texas Local Government Code in adopting the following Commissioners Court Order:

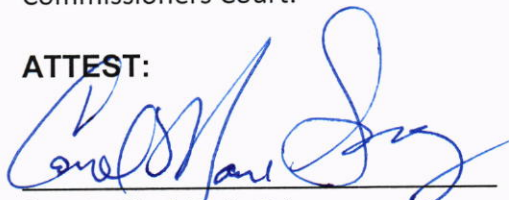
BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED that all outdoor burning is prohibited in the unincorporated areas of El Paso County, Texas, excepting activities specifically authorized by and for which a permit has been obtained from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for firefighter training, public utility, natural gas pipeline, or mining operations, planting or harvesting of agriculture crops, and prescribed burn management pursuant to Texas Local Government Code Section 352.081(f) and excepting agricultural burning authorized by and for which a permit has been obtained from the Fire Marshall of an Emergency Services District located in the county; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a violation of this Order is defined and punishable as described in Section 352.081(h) of the Texas Local Government Code as a Class C Misdemeanor; and

IT IS LASTLY ORDERED that this order shall be effective on October 17, 2014 and shall continue for a period of 90 days until repealed or expired in accordance with state law.

ADOPTED AND ORDERED this, the 16th day of October 2014, by the El Paso County Commissioners Court.

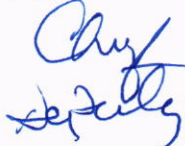
ATTEST:



County Clerk Delia Briones

THE COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS


By _____
County Judge Veronica Escobar


Deputy