

Far West Texas Agriculture IPM

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If you would like to be added to or removed from the email or mailing list, please contact Eva Rivera at (915) 771-2354 or by email at eva.rivera@ag.tamu.edu

Cotton

Verticillium Wilt

Verticillium Wilt has been spotted in some cotton fields this year. Cotton samples were taken from plants that were thought to have Texas Root Rot. The samples were taken to the Plant Diagnostic Lab at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. The lab results showed that the plants had Verticillium Wilt. Verticillium Wilt is a soilborne fungus caused by *Verticillium dahliae*. The fungus infects the plants after germination but shows up more clearly after bloom.



Image From: Integrated Management of Verticillium Wilt in Cotton Publication by Terry Wheeler and Jason Woodward

After infection, the fungus will spread into the vascular system and cause stunting and defoliation, young bolls to shed or become malformed and a decrease in yield. Currently the suggested method of control is crop rotation or planting tolerant varieties.

Whiteflies

Whitefly populations have been very high in areas around the county. I have spoken with many of my colleagues about this issue and they have all agreed that spraying early and often before the populations get out of control. It was recommended that Oberon be applied at the first sign of whiteflies. A chemical rotation of Transform and PQZ was highly recommended. Two other insecticides that were recommended were the high rate of Leverage and Sivanto but the latter is expensive and the efficacy is less than PQZ. Also, the rotation of chemicals after every application will reduce the likelihood that they gain resistance to a certain

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insecticide. When cotton is highly infested insecticide application need to be aggressive to get the populations under control. Lastly, there is a biotype of whitefly that is naturally highly resistant to insecticide and I will be take whitefly samples and sending them to a lab to have them analyzed to see if that biotype is here.

Lorsban (Chlorpyrifos)

There has been rumors about the possible ban on the use of Lorsban. On September 25th, 2020 the EPA opened a 60-day public comment period on the risk assessment. The risk assessment will also include recommendations from a scientific advisory committee that met in September. In February, Corteva, the manufacturer of Lorsban said that they were phasing out the production of chlorpyrifos. This is all the information that is out there but as soon as I hear anything ill let everybody know.

Full Article:

<https://agfax.com/2020/09/25/the-future-of-chlorpyrifos-aka-lorsban-continues-to-dangle-dtn/>

Dicamba

There has been an update on the use of dicamba. The update includes new labels, lower max rate permitted, new timing restrictions and increased buffer zones.

Full Article:

<https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2020/10/28/breakdown-changes-2020-dicamba>

Pesticide Applicators CEU's

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the TDA has stated that they are allowing online CEU for this year even if you received online CEUs last year.. If you have not gotten your CEU's for this year or are need a few more you can get them online. If you are needing CEU's and don't want to take a course online contact me or Orlando and we can discuss some other options.

Link to Online Courses:

<https://agrilife.org/aes/ceus-continuing-education-trainings/>

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