

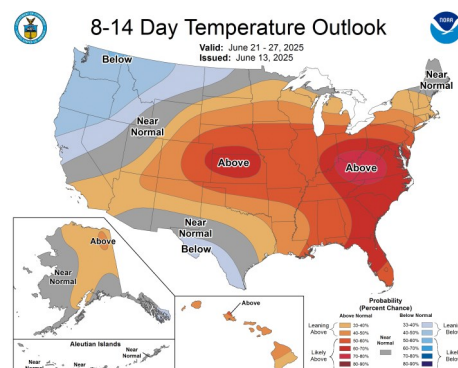
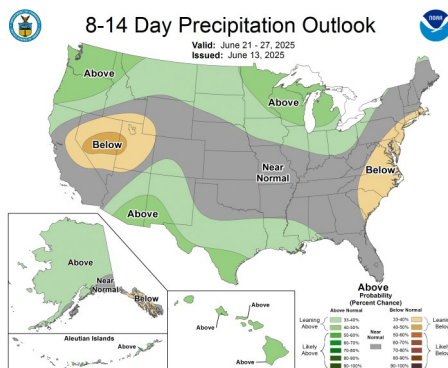
JUNE 13, 2025

General Status

As we roll through another week in the field, there is a lot going on, regardless of where across our region. From high pest numbers, flush of weeds, weather damage, sand fighting, replant decisions, side dressing, to applications, we have a lot going on this week. Almost all of our fields had damaging weather recently, but some localized areas received devastating winds and/or hail with recent rains last week and weekend. Except for the most extreme damage areas, having cover has certainly paid off so far this year, helping to protect whatever summer crop we may have grown. It also remains clear where insecticidal seed treatments were used for multiple reasons. While these seed treatments are playing out in most cotton fields for thrips control they did aid in the development of the first few leaves and were a benefit in stand establishment and wireworm control, while the fungicide portion of seed treatments have aided in managing some widespread seeding disease with the recent cool, wet environment we have had. That being said, most of our crops look like they have been through quite a bit. I maintain that most fields, of those not clearly failed, are in a pretty good position today.

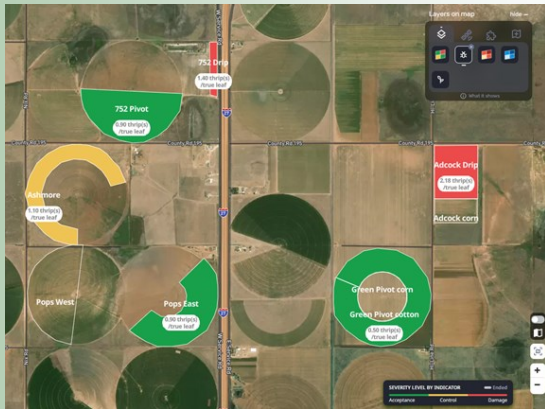


Some area cotton, alfalfa, corn and sorghum off to a good start this week.



Cotton

This week our Plains Pest Management cotton ranged in stage from cotyledon up to 4th true leaf stage. Uncontrollable



Cropwise image showing a central Hale County producers thrips pressure this week. The primary cause for thrips pressure is each field's direct proximity to drying wheat.

weather aside, thrips remained our largest concern with some very widespread pressure still reaching farther south this year. Most unsprayed fields were coming in with thrips populations over the threshold of 1 thrips per true leaf and plenty well over 2 thrips per true leaf stage. Treatments look to be working well although no field was thrips free and reinfestation at lower levels was common. Not all untreated fields have reached threshold yet with the primary cause for pressure being proximity to a drying wheat field.



Thrips on young cotton

Many of our area fields have been through quite a bit of weather. Those that were under the worst of it, be it wind or hail, have been or are under evaluation to be kept or failed. The two images here are from one of the fields under evaluation. In this case, the damage is from wind alone. The left image, at a glance, looks to be plainly failed, black and dead with just a few survivors not worth keeping. Upon closer inspection, most, if not all, of the cotton seedlings shown here actually have a healthy growing point and are trying to regrow, despite black, damaged, and missing almost all leaves. While set back, keeping this stand, if representative of the whole field, is better than a replant of another crop. That being said, these seedlings may not be 'out of the woods yet.' If static, caused and generated by the blowing soil particles, impacted these growing points, they will blacken and die. I suggest producers to give a few days before making a final decision for any damaged field and look truly closely at those growing points to see if they are recovering or turning a black squish. If they are recovering, time becomes critical. Under any thrips pressure and this level of damage, recovery can be slow and there is weed control to consider.



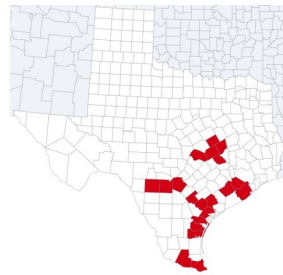
Corn and Sorghum

Our PPM corn and sorghum fields continue to develop rapidly. Some look a bit like a wind whipped flag early in the week, but were already showing healthy leaves forcing their way out of the whorl just a few days later. Our biggest concern in these two crops comes from the corn side and the search for the corn leafhopper, which we still have not found yet. We again noted some light caterpillar feeding on non-Bt corn and sorghum, some from fall armyworms and some from corn earworms. Neither is very notable in our fields and certainly not economic. The widespread thrips population might be helping in stopping spidermites from establishing in either sorghum and corn as no colonies were found by us this week. These thrips, pests in cotton and already small, can and often do, consume and/or damage the even much smaller mites and their colonies as they indiscriminately feed on the grain crops.



Young sorghum in S Swisher this week.

Detections as of June 12, 2025



• Significant infestations

- Cameron
- Hildago
- Kleberg
- Nueces
- San Patricio
- Refugio
- Goliad

• Light infestations

- Uvalde
- Medina
- Victoria

• Bexar

- Karnes

• Rare finds

- Wharton
- Ft. Bend
- Brazoria
- Williamson
- Burleson
- Robertson
- Milam
- Falls

Corn Leafhopper detections in Texas so far in 2025.



Freshly emerged and hard to spot pigweed in NW Floyd this week.

Weeds

Weeds are an issue I would like to sound the alarm for this week, regardless of crop. I feel we generally have pretty good residual control this year. But it is not bullet proof. Some always come through. We are better off with solid residual just on a numbers game, but some will come through. We are seeing a flush of emerging pigweeds this week. Most of these are small enough that one has to get down on our hands and knees to even see. That will not be the case for long. These weeds are the definition of rapid growth. I do not think we can kill any weed over 2-inches tall with any product available. While I feel this week flush is light compared to most years, a week from now these weeds might be 3 to 5-inches and impossible to control.



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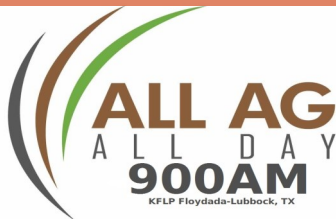
PEST PATROL

BLAYNE REED
IPM Extension Agent
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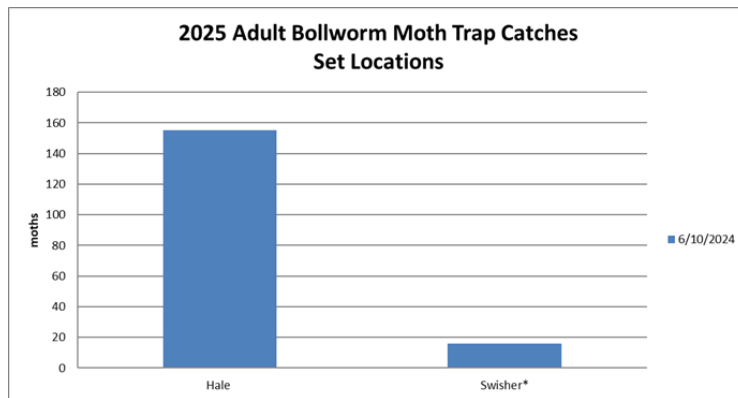
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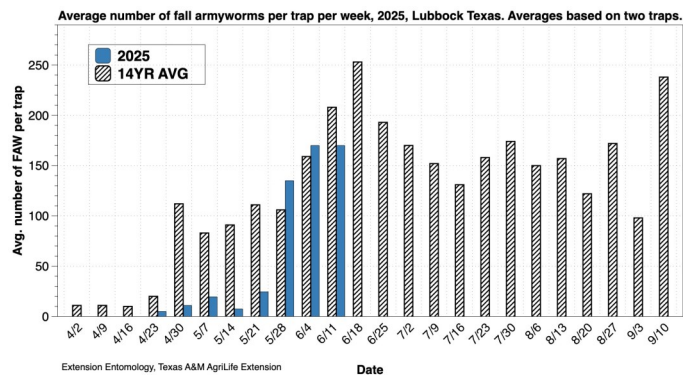


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We have completed our first week of moth pest trapping. We run annually bollworm moth traps in fixed locations in Hale and Swisher annually. For the past few years we have partnered with the Texas Corn Producers to monitor multiple traps for all corn moth pests, corn earworm (CEW/bollworm), southwestern corn borer (SWCB), fall armyworm (FAW), and western bean cutworm (WBCW) near corn fields. A few of these traps were damaged by weather. The Swisher bollworm trap was probably knocked over last weeked, a WBCB trap near Centerplains had its capture bucket knocked off, and the FAW trap near Finney had its pheromone blown away. So, some of this data only represents a partial week's capture. We will have full timeline graphs next week.



		13-Jun-24		13-Jun-24		13-Jun-24		
	CEW	78		CEW	96	CEW	135	
H1 - Halfway	FAW	55	H2 - Finney	FAW	93	S1 - Center Plains	FAW	22
	SWCB	1		SWCB	0		SWCB	2
	WBCW	0		WBCW	0		WBCW	0



Blayne Reed

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