Fort Bend Ag & Natural Resources Newsletter

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Welcome to May!

Howdy everybody! I hope your spring is going well. My fiancé and I just had our five year anniversary! Boy how time flies when you spend it with love ones. As summer approaches and crops get into the ground try to take some time and spend it creating memories with your love ones!

Pest Report

 As cotton plants start emerging this time of year, one of the major pests I have been seeing in fields in the county is thrips. Thrips are tiny insect pest found



in many crops in production agriculture. Thrips feed on young cotton plants by using their piercing and sucking mouth parts to suck up fluids from the plants. Evidence of thrip damage include silvering of the lower leaves, loss of plant terminal, blacking of leaves, and curling of leaves. Thrip infestations can cause loss of plant vigor, stand reduction, and delays in fruiting and maturity. Below are some methods and keys for scouting and making management decisions on controlling thrips.

- Seeds treating with insecticides assist greatly in controlling thrips. These seed treatments usually protect the plant up to the two to three true leaf stage. Scouting your fields twice a week for thrips is a good practice should post emergence treatment be needed. Start scouting once the cotton has reach about 50 percent stand. Select 25 random plants in the field and look for thrips. Look at the top and bottom of leases and terminals. Thrips like to hide in tight areas of the plant. Should damage be present at threshold levels, a foliar or systemic treatment might be warranted.
- Threshold for Thrips in cotton

# Of True Leaves	#Of Thrips Per Plant
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5+	Treatment is rarely effective

(Newsletter conitinues on the next page)



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https://fortbend.agrilife.org

See all events at: https://fortbend.agrilife.org/ /events/

Fort Bend Ag & Natural Resources Newsletter Continued

Agriculture

Now- June 30, 2023: Field Pest Scouting Program

Our Field Pest Scouting Program is still going on and is open to row crop and pasture producers looking to gain information on what pests are in their fields and methods on how to manage them. You can register for this program at this link:
 https://fortbend.agrilife.org/event/field-pest-scouting-program/ or contacting AgNR Extension Agent John Few john.few@ag.tamu.edu or 281-633-7006

5/13/2023: Setting Up Raised Beds/Planters

 The Fort Bend Master Gardeners are hosting a workshop as a part of their Grow Your Own program where you can learn about the pros and cons of using different materials to make raised beds, set up considerations and maintenance. Planters, including pots, will also be covered. You can register for this event by going to:



https://fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own/grow-your-own-rsvp-form/

5/23/2023: Small Farm Institute-Prairie View A&M University(PVAMU) : Farm Financial Resource Management Program

PVAMU is hosting an Ag Law & Ag Tax Valuations Hybrid Workshop! Topics covered at this
program include: NRCS Support for Producers & Ranchers, Understanding Ag Law and
Landowners Liability, and Guidelines for Qualification of Agricultural Land in Wildlife
Management Use. You can register for this event at this link below:
https://pvpanther.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUpdeqvrjgrHN1lakl5WWkwClKs9CcAnr53#/registration

5/24/2023: Wildlife Management Program- PVAMU: Feral Hogs Management in Brazoria County

PVAMU is hosting a Wildlife Management Program! Topics covered at this program include: Feral Hogs Economic Impact and Management Strategies, Wildlife Management in Brazoria County, and Problems Caused by Movement of Feral Hogs. You can register for this event at this link: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/feral-hogs-management-in-brazoria-county-tickets-600796988967

