

AG NEWS & VIEWS

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<http://midland-tx.tamu.edu>

Permian Basin Pecan Show

The 2009 Permian Basin Pecan Show will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2009, at the Midland County Extension Office. Entries are due to either the Ector County Extension Office, Midland County Extension Office, or other designated collection site by 4:00 pm, Tuesday, December 8, 2009. For further information regarding the Pecan Food Show, please contact the Midland County Extension Office.

This year, our pecan show will be judged by John Begnaud, County Extension Agent – Emeritus from San Angelo, Texas. Mr. Begnaud has a long history of being associated with Texas Pecan production. He is one of the contributing authors for the Texas Pecan Handbook and has judged numerous pecan shows across the state of Texas.

PECAN FOOD SHOW

- Age categories are Adult (19 & Up), Youth (9-18), and PeeWee (8 & Under)
- Entry Categories are: Breads, Candy, Cakes, Cookies, Pies, Miscellaneous
- Entries must be brought to the Midland County Extension Office by 8:30 am on Wednesday, December 9, 2009.

Midland County Extension Office
County of Midland, Texas
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Texas Department of Agriculture
United States Department of Agriculture

MIDLAND COUNTY CROP TOUR 2009

Midland County held its Crop Tour on October 1, 2009. The Tour kicked off at Roy Graham's irrigated cotton test field and continued on to tour Perry Lewis' dry land performance test field. Ending with a luncheon held in Perry Lewis' barn. The tour had several participants and would like to thank Perry Lewis for his barn for the luncheon and Spike's corner for cooking the great meal.

A special thanks to Warren Multer the Extension Agent IPM for Glasscock, Upton, and Reagan counties for attending as well as David Drake, Extension Specialist Agronomy from District 7. The seed companies that came to the tour, Cropland Genetics Jonathan Folson, Robert Cossar Regional Agronomist also Delta & Pine Land representative Doug Jost and All Tex Seed's Richard Percival.

This was a great beginning to an annual crop tour and we look forward to having a bigger crop tour next year. So if you are interested in being a part of Crop Tour 2010 please call the Agrilife Ext. Office.

- <http://midland-tx.tamu.edu>
- <http://www.co.midland.tx.us>
- <http://texasextension.tamu.edu>
- <http://www.agr.state.tx.us>
- <http://www.usda.gov>



OVERVIEW OF NEW TDA REGULATIONS FOR CONTROL OF VOLUNTEER COTTON BY ROY PARKER

The information in this article was obtained from Valley Ag Matters issue 5, Sept. 28, 2009 published by Cotton and Grain producers of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The summary provided by Webb Wallace, Executive Director, provides a quick overview followed by directions where the regulations can be viewed in more detail.

In order to tighten enforcement of volunteer cotton destruction, the Texas Department of Agriculture has implemented new regulations regarding cotton stalk destruction. The new regulations are the result of legislation passed during the 2009 session to enforce destruction of volunteer cotton and enhance boll weevil eradication efforts.

Planting and destruction dated will remain the same for all of Texas. What has changed is the way fees are levied for out-of-compliance cotton. Growers that are out of compliance will no longer be assessed administrative penalties, but will instead be assessed a "Hostable Cotton Fee".

By reclassifying the assessment as a fee rather than a penalty, the funds will be available for use by the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation rather than going into the state general revenue fund.

Under the new regulations, cotton has been classified as either "commercial" or "non-commercial". Commercial cotton is cotton that is intentionally planted with the expectation of growing a crop, or meeting crop insurance requirements. All other cotton, including volunteer cotton, is classified as non-commercial cotton. Non-commercial cotton includes volunteer cotton growing in any location.

If hostable original stalks, hostable regrowth, or hostable volunteer cotton is found in a commercial cotton field after the deadline (or any approved extensions), TDA will give notice to the producer and require that the cotton be rendered non-hostable within 7 days. If the cotton is not rendered non-hostable within 7 days, Hostable Cotton Fees will be assessed at \$5 per acre per week for the first five weeks, and \$7,50 per acre per week thereafter until the cotton is rendered non-hostable.

The biggest change in the new regulations is in how fees are assessed on hostable volunteer cotton growing in any location other than a commercial cotton field. If any any time during the year, hostable cotton is found in any field that is not a commercial cotton field, TDA will give notice to the producer and require that the cotton be rendered non-hostable within 14 days. If the cotton is not rendered non-hostable with 14 days, Hostable Cotton Fees will be assessed at per acre per week until the cotton is non-hostable.

For hostable cotton outside of commercial cotton fields, the Hostable Cotton Fee will be capped during the hostable period at a maximum equal to the normal boll weevil eradication fee for the zone. After the hostable period has ended, the Hostable Cotton Fee will restart at \$5 per acre per week and will continue until the cotton is rendered non-hostable.

In other changes, producers seeking an individual, extension of the destruction deadline for un-harvested cotton, are now required

to make the extension request 10 days prior to the destruction deadline. This new requirement has caused much concern across the state, but the ten day requirement was written into the underlying legislation, and can not be changed through the regulations at this time. However, the ten days requirement will not apply to regrowth, volunteer cotton, or requests following any extended deadline.

Story contributed by Roy Parker, Dist. Spec. Corpus Christi

INTERESTING WEBSITES

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: Since becoming a county extension agent, I have found the value of a number of different websites which offer
: newsletters emailed directly to you at no cost. I would like to share the following with each of you as you might
: find some useful information from these publications.
:

: Southwest Farm Press
: <http://southwestfarmpress.com/>

: Beef Magazine
: <http://www.beefmagazine.com/>

: Hay & Forage Grower
: <http://hayandforage.com/newsletters/>

: Crop News Weekly
: <http://enews.penton.com/enews/cropnewsweekly>
:

AG ECO NEWS

Corn and cotton markets have been showing strength in October as the U.S. economy shows signs of recovery, investors are attracted back into the commodity market and the dollar weakens increasing prospects for export sales.

The Dow Jones Industrial average is up over 50% from early March lows and broke the 10,000 point barrier this past week, further supporting that investors are re-entering the market.

But, crude oil prices jumped to near \$80/barrel this past weeks after hovering in the high \$60's-low 70's/barrel since June. The retail price of gasoline jumped over 20 cents/gallon during the past few days. While it appears unlikely that crude oil prices will climb to last summer's record highs, analysts indicate that prices may increase another \$5-\$10/barrel before year's end. This means higher input costs.

Corn future prices have improved during the past two weeks as prospects for colder, wet weather in the U.S. Corn Belt threatens the harvest. Also, signs of an improving economy appear to be attracting investors and a weaker U.S. dollar may trigger higher-than-expected exports. A cheap U.S. dollar makes U.S. exports, like corn and cotton, cheaper to overseas buyers and attracts investment buying in commodities as a hedge against inflation.

December 2009 corn futures finished at \$3.86/bu. on Monday (10.19.09), up 17.5¢/bu. from Friday and up about 71¢/bu. from lows of about \$3.15/bu. in early Sept. 2009. Monday's rally slowed near the close of the trading day as recent weather forecasts improved to more farm friendly conditions. But, the recent market improvement generally held firm on Tuesday (10.20.09) with December 2009 corn future prices dropping just slightly to close at \$3.85/bu. and December 2010 closing at about \$4.24/bu. On Wednesday morning (10.21.09), when this article was prepared, December 2009 and 2010 contracts were trading at about \$4.03 and \$4.35/bu., respectively.

This year's corn crop is behind schedule. USDA's October 19, 2009 Crop Progress report placed corn at 92% mature compared to a five year average of 97% at this same time. USDA put the U.S. corn harvest at 28% complete compared to a five year average of 46% at this same time.

Cotton futures price have been showing a steady improvement since mid-June's lows. While December 2009

prices were off on Monday (10.16.09) to close at about 66.4 cents, prices are just two cents below last Friday's (10.16.09) recent highs and up significantly from mid June's lows of about 55.5¢/lb. The market was back up on Tuesday 10.20.09). December 2009 and 2010 contracts closed at about 67.23¢/bu., and 73.5¢/lb., respectively.

CORN

USDA's October 9, 2009 corn production estimate for 09/10 at 13.018 billion bushels, is up 63 million bushels from last month's estimate and just 20 million bushels below 2007's record crop of 13.038 billion bushels. While USDA lowered the estimate of acres for harvest by 713,000 acres from last month's estimate, USDA increased the national average yield to a record 164.2bu./ac, up 2.bu./ac from last month's estimate.

U.S. corn supplies are projected at a record 14.072 billion bushels, up 340 million from the previous record in 07/08. Total use at 13.03 billion bushels was increased by five million bushels from last month's estimate. Total use will exceed production by 12 million bushels. Ending stocks are up 37 million bushels from last month's estimate but down slightly from last year. The 09/10 marketing-year average farm price remained unchanged from last month at \$3.05 to \$3.65 per bushel, compared with \$4.06 per bushel for the 08/09 season.

COTTON

USDA's October 9, 2009 supply/demand report increased beginning stocks slightly but reduced the size of the U.S. cotton crop by 440,000 bales to 13.0 million bales. Texas accounted for most of the decline. Production in the Mississippi Delta states was reduced 85,000 bales. Domestic mill use was lowered, reflecting the continued sluggish pace of U.S. textile exports. Cotton exports remained unchanged at 10.5 million bales. Ending stocks was reduced 200,000 bales to 5.4 million.

With over 80% of the 13 million bale production estimate slated for export, the U.S. cotton industry continues to remain export dependent, subject to many foreign rules and regulations.

Forecasts for the 2009/10 world crop were virtually unchanged, leaving a carryover of 56.1 million bales.

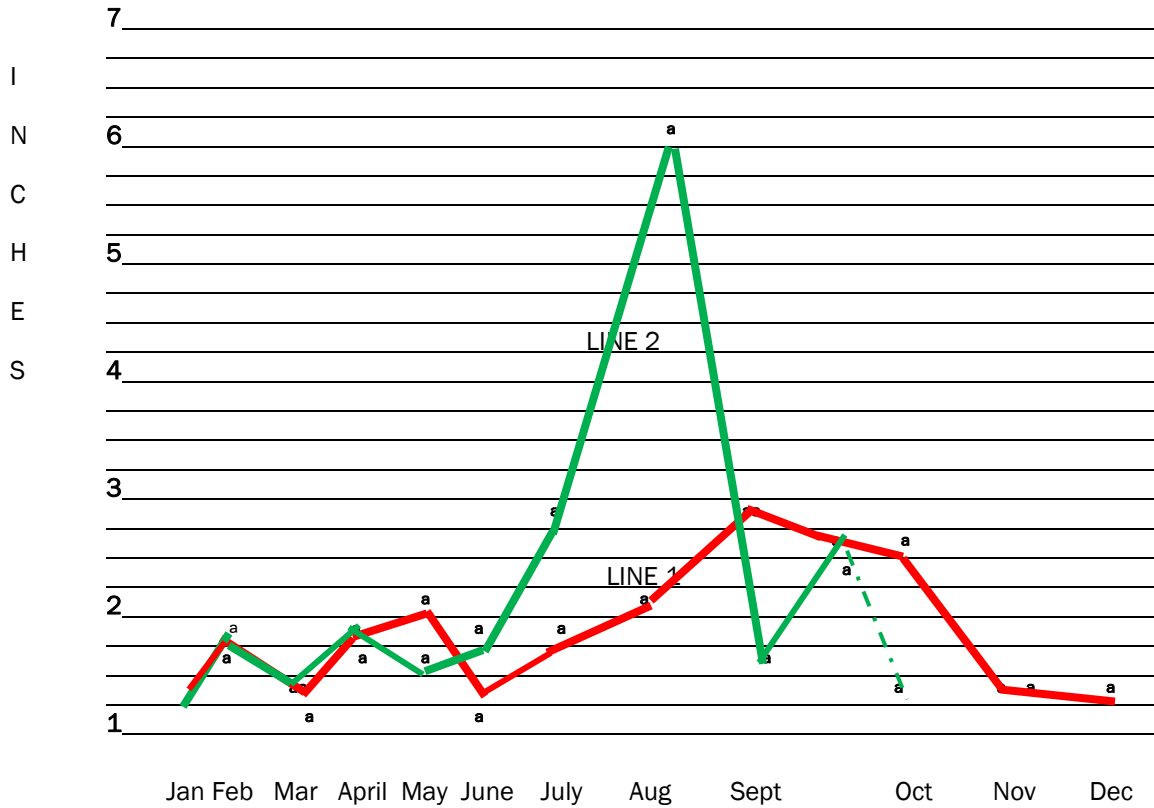
months are normally sufficient. But, world carryover stocks have decreased by close to seven million bales in the last two years from 63.1 million to 56.1 million. Most of the decrease in ending stocks has been in the U.S. where stocks have dropped from 10.0 million to 5.4 million bales.

USDA reduced the forecast of the high end of the average price received by producers for the marketing-year by two cents/lb. to a range of 49 to 57 cents.

***Appreciation is expressed to Dr. Jackie Smith, Ext. Economist-Management for his contributions to and review of this article.

***"Corn and Cotton
Markets gain
strength as the U.S.
Economy Shows
Signs of Recovery,
The Dollar Weakens
and Investors re-
enter the Market."***

RAINFALL IN MIDLAND, TEXAS A TWO YEAR COMPARISON 2008-2009



LINE 1 INDICATES RAINFALL FOR THE YEAR OF 2008

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
0.03	0.01	0.37	0.51	0.18	2.02	0.70	2.42	2.16	1.61	0.65	0.65

LINE 2 INDICATES RAINFALL FOR THE YEAR OF 2009

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
0.04	0.22	0.56	0.29	0.45	2.33	6.55	0.03	2.47	0.028	NOT RECORDED AS OF YET	NOT RECORDED AS OF YET

Comparison information was provided by the National Weather Service - Climate Data

REMOVAL OF VOLUNTEER COTTON KEY TO SUCCESS OF BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION

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This article provides only a brief summary of the new regulations. For full details on the new regulations, see the TDA website at www.texasagriculture.gov. On the right hand side of the web page you will see a link to "New Cotton Pest Control Regulations".

For the complete wording of the new regulations, go to the TDA website. On the left-hand side of the web page, click on "Laws & Regulations". Then click on "Rules". Next scroll down until you can click on "CHAPTER 20 - COTTON PEST CONTROL". Then click on "SUBCHAPTER D - REGULATION OF VOLUNTEER AND OTHER NON COMMERCIAL COTTON; HOSTABLE COTTON FEE". From there you can chose the rule for either commercial cotton fields, or locations other than commercial cotton fields.



Story contributed by Roy Parker, Dist. Spec. Corpus Christi

AGENDA

Agenda for the Pesticide Management & CEU Workshop will be held November 19, 2009 at the Pecos County Civic Center registration starts at 8 the day will line up as listed below:

- 8:00-8:30 Registration & pay for class \$5.00
- 8:30-9:30 4-1-1 on Rangeland Herbicides by: Alyson McDonald
- 8:30-12 PAT Training by: Mark Muegge (Classroom)
- Testing Will Frederick
- 10:30-10:45 Break
- 10:45-11:50 Rangeland Herbicides by: Alyson McDonald
- 11:50-1:00 Lunch (on your own)
- 1:00-1:50 Carbon Sequestration Update by: Rob Hogan
- 2:00- 2:50 Water Protection by: Gary Bryant
- 3:00- 3:30 Economics of Brush Control by: Rob Hogan
- 3:30- 3:45 Training Evaluation
- 3:45-4:00 Distribute Certificates

**Midland County Grain Sorghum Hybrid Performance Test
COOPERATOR - AL SPINKS**

Company	Hybrid	Seed Treatment	Length (FT)	Width (FT)	Acreage	Yield	Bu Wgt	Moisture	14% Moisture Std	
									Yield/ac (lbs)	Adjusted Yield/ac (Bu)
DeKalb Seed	37-07	Concep/Poncho	1075	60	1.48	2600.00	55.0	15.5	1,890.98	1857.99
Pioneer	85Y40 - N271	Concep III	1312	60	1.81	3470.00	58.0	17.9	1,920.14	1833.06
B-H Genetics	3822	Concep III	1660	60	2.29	3700.00	57.0	16.0	1,618.19	1580.56
DeKalb Seed	54-00	Concep/Poncho	594	60	0.82	1348.00	53.0	19.9	1,647.56	1534.53
Pioneer	84G82	Concep III	1532	60	2.11	3142.00	58.0	16.6	1,488.96	1443.95
Mycogen	1G557	Concep/Cruiser	700	60	0.96	1340.00	58.0	14.8	1,389.77	1376.84
Pioneer	85G85	Concep III	923	60	1.27	1724.00	57.0	14.9	1,356.04	1341.85
Mycogen	X1 9646	Concep/Cruiser	1173	60	1.62	1684.00	58.0	14.6	1,166.06	1157.92
B-H Genetics	3808	Concep/Cruiser	1415	60	1.95	2260.00	54.0	14.9	1,159.55	1147.41
B-H Genetics	5224	Concep III	834	60	1.15	1328.00	53.0	15.4	1,156.03	1137.21
Mycogen	M3838	Concep/Cruiser	470	60	0.65	574.00	54.0	16.3	886.65	862.93

Planted on	Tuesday, May 05, 2009
Harvested on	Thursday, September 17, 2009
	135 days

Demonstration Results are on The Midland County Website <http://midland-tx.tamu.edu/> choose the Publications Tab

**Midland County Cotton Variety Performance Test (Irrigated)
COOPERATOR - ROY GRAHAM**

Company	Hybrid	Transgenic Properties	Seed Treatment	Length (FT)	Width (FT)	Acreage	Plot Yield	EST. Yield (Seed Cotton)		EST. Adjusted Yield (lbs lint/ac)
								lbs/ac	Turnout	
CropLan Genetics	3035	RF	Avicta Complete	527	26.67	0.32	1,722.00	5,336.88	32.0%	1,707.80
ALL-TEX Seed	Epic	RF	Standard Treatment	527	26.67	0.32	1,670.00	5,175.72	32.0%	1,668.28
NEXGEN	3348	B2 RF	Standard Treatment	527	26.67	0.32	1,458.00	4,519.68	32.0%	1,446.98
Stoneville	5288	B2 RF	Aeris Trilex ADV	527	26.67	0.32	1,242.00	3,849.25	32.0%	1,231.78
PhytoGen	375	W RF	Avicta Complete	527	26.67	0.32	1,440.00	4,462.90	32.0%	1,428.18
FiberMax	1740	B2 RF	Aeris Trilex ADV	527	26.67	0.32	1,368.00	4,239.75	32.0%	1,368.72
Delta & Pine Land	0935	B2 RF	Avicta	527	26.67	0.32	1,276.00	3,954.62	32.0%	1,266.48
CropLan Genetics	3220	B2 RF	Avicta Complete	527	26.67	0.32	1,204.00	3,731.48	32.0%	1,194.07
ALL-TEX Seed	Apex	B2 RF	Aeris Allegiance	527	26.67	0.32	1,386.00	4,295.54	32.0%	1,374.67
Americot	1532	B2 RF	Standard Treatment	527	26.67	0.32	1,282.00	3,973.22	32.0%	1,271.49
Stoneville	5488	B2 RF	Aeris Trilex ADV	527	26.67	0.32	1,398.00	4,332.73	32.0%	1,388.47
PhytoGen	485	W RF	Avicta Complete	527	26.67	0.32	1,318.00	4,084.79	32.0%	1,307.18
FiberMax	9160	B2 RF	Aeris Trilex ADV	527	26.67	0.32	1,428.00	4,425.70	32.0%	1,418.28
Delta & Pine Land	0924	B2 RF	Avicta	527	26.67	0.32	1,252.00	3,880.24	32.0%	1,241.68

Planted on	Wednesday, May 20, 2009
Harvested on	Monday, November 02, 2009
Growing Time	166 days

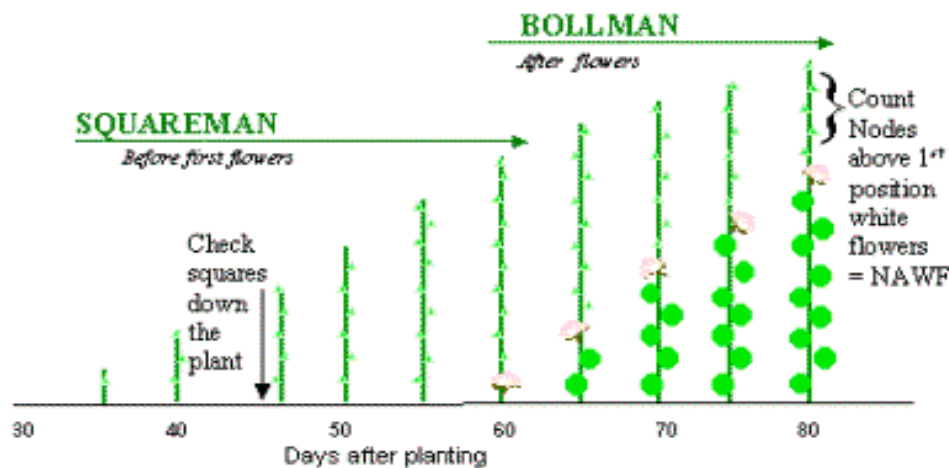
COTMAN

Cotman - Cotton Management Expert System Software is alive and well in Texas. Cotman is a crop information system based on in-season plant monitoring. It uses cotton crop monitoring techniques to summarize crop developmental status, detect stress, and assist with in-season and end of season management decisions. Cotman is used to promote earliness and plant vigor, and to reduce late-season insecticide applications.

Cotman is divided into two parts as follows:

Squareman which is used to monitor crop development up to time of first flowers. Reports provide feedback on square retention and plant stress. Squareman data reports stand density, first fruiting node and square map (height and 1st position square retention) From the first day planted to approximately 60 days of growth.

Bollman is used when the crop is flowering to monitor boll-loading stress and to also assist with end-of-season crop termination decisions. Bollman data reports Nodes Above White Flower (NAWF) on the plant and daily temperatures which can be collected in paper form as well as on a computer. Bollman is approximately from 60 days of growth till harvest time.



Private Applicator License

Individuals interested in training and testing for a private pesticide applicator's license can train at the Midland County Extension Office. Trainings will be conducted monthly at the Midland County Extension Office. There will be no training in December 2009. Cost of materials is \$30.00 a person for the books needed for the training. After you have completed the training, you have one year to take the exam at a Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) approved testing site. The regional TDA inspector for this area conducts monthly tests at the Ector County Extension Office. For information on the testing, please contact the Ector County Extension Office at 432-498-4071. Individuals who desire to train at the Midland County Office will need to contact us ten (10) days prior to the testing to ensure we have the materials on hand and to RSVP for the training date. Trainings will start at 9:00 am and will conclude before 1:00 pm.



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Improving Lives. Improving Texas.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service
United States Department of Agriculture
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