

General Conditions

Weather: This was the first totally dry week I can remember in a long time. Producers in Faulkner County got a lot of things done this week. There were several acres of soybeans that were planted and a few acres of bermudagrass were planted this week, but it is starting to get dry and we are actually needing a rain at this point. Irrigation will have to start immediately if we miss the rain that is forecasted to start Sunday. But we do have really good chances of rain all next week so take advantage of this forecast to get out fertilizer on hay that was just harvested.

Arkansas River: The river looks more like a harmless stream right now than the mighty river that destroyed so much this time last year. We are sitting at 255 and it looks like it will be maintained at that level for the rest of the week.

Row Crop

Corn: Producers with earlier planted corn are getting out pre tassel applications of nitrogen now ahead of the forecasted rain. I know one field has been irrigated and the rest of the fields will be irrigated if we miss the rain. In early afternoon you can see some stress starting to show up, which isn't too bad on yield this early. Once this crop starts to tassel we can't afford to let it stress like this though. We are using close to 0.2 inches of water a day right now, and once we tassel we will be at max uptake of 0.33 inches of water a day. That means we will use an inch in three days, and with pivots, that is hard to keep up with.

I did see a little common rust on a few fields yesterday. Remember that common rust is nothing to worry about. It is a brick red color and shows up on both sides of the leaf. Don't get it confused with southern rust. As of today we do not have southern rust in the state.

Total Heat Units Accumulated Since April 18	Heat Units Accumulated June 13 – June 19
1245	184

Rice: Rice fields are slowly going to flood. There were several acres that were fertilized and sprayed yesterday and the pumps were started up. It seems like it is taking forever to get across these really dry fields with water, but we are getting there. Rice is needing a drink and some fertilizer, so the quicker we get the water across, the quicker the fields will start to look better.

Grass continues to frustrate me to no end. Every time I think it is knocked back, it comes back. We continue to work on it and I hope in the end we get it all knocked back. Several fields will be coming up on green ring soon, so be careful with herbicide applications at that point.

Dr. Jarrod Hardke's 13th Arkansas Rice Update: <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/crops-commercial-horticulture/rice/Arkansas%20Rice%20Update%206-12-20.pdf>

DD50 program: <https://dd50.uaex.edu/>

2020 Managing Water-Seeded Rice for Arkansas: <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/crops-commercial-horticulture/rice/2020%20Managing%20Water-Seeded%20Rice%20in%20Arkansas.pdf>

Soybeans: I thought all the soybean stands were looking good this time last week, but turns out not all of them were good. I got a few calls on Saturday about replanting and after looking at some fields on Monday we decided to make a few replants. When doing stand counts, we need to be above 75,000 plants per acre to get maximum yield. I was getting counts of 40 to 50,000 and that is just not enough to maximize yield.

Several acres have been planted this week thanks to the dry conditions. This rain forecasted for next week is really good timing. This will allow activation of pre-emerge herbicides and put some moisture back in the ground to plant some more next week.

I am getting a few questions on Enlist herbicide. Just some points to remember.

- Enlist One has just the 2,4-D choline in it and it is used at a rate of 1.5 to 2 pints per acre.
- Enlist Duo has 2,4-D choline plus glyphosate and it is used at a rate of 3.5 to 4.75 pints per acre.
- Each of these herbicides have different labels and different tank mixes on the labels. For instance you can use Liberty with Enlist One, but not with Enlist Duo. Check the labels for tank mix partners.
- I like the idea of using Enlist One plus glyphosate or Enlist Duo early, then follow it with Liberty a couple weeks later. I think this will give us the best option on pigweeds.
- If you need to spray before a replant, you may want to use Liberty and glyphosate. Don't use Enlist before a replant.

SRVP (Soybean Research Verification Program) Field: We have a soybean verification field with David Culberson in Lollie this year. We are working with verification coordinator Chris Elkins on the field. The purpose of the verification program is to verify that Extension recommendations work on production sized fields. This program has been around for 30 plus years and has been a great opportunity for producers. We planted the field last week with Delta Grow 48E10 Enlist beans. We actually thought we were going to have to replant, but looking at it Monday I was surprised to see a great stand. We did stand counts on Thursday and we have 105,000 plants per acre in the field. We also installed some moisture sensors in the field at 6, 12, 18 and 30 inches. We can monitor moisture use on the field through these sensors. We will be looking at an Enlist application soon on this field.

Moth Trap Counts for this week:

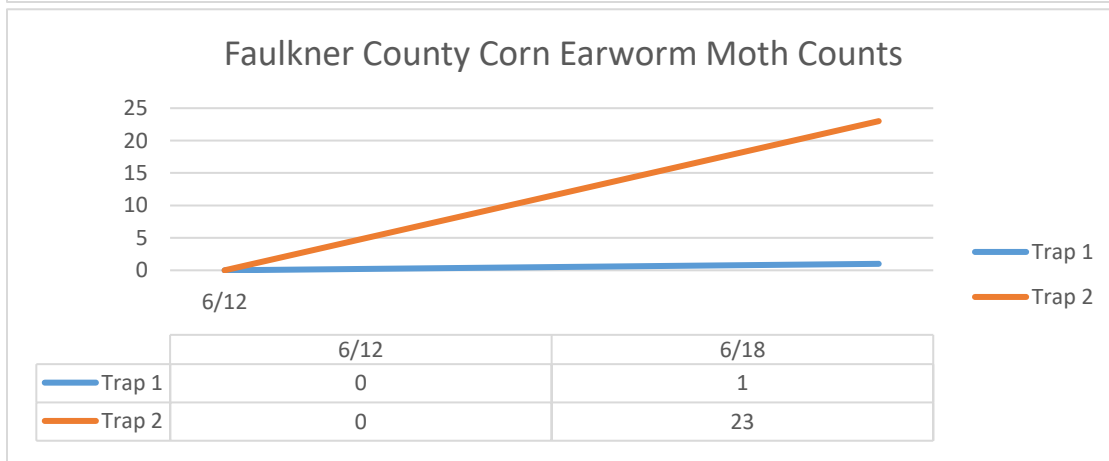
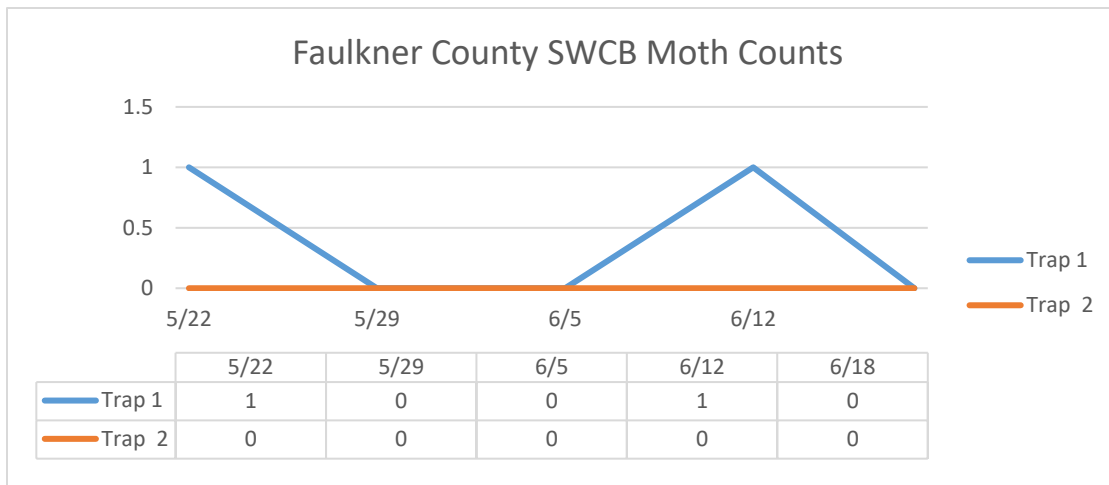
All of the traps are now installed and being monitored. All counts were low this week.

SWCB Trap 1: 0

Corn Earworm Trap 1: 1

SWCB Trap 2: 0

Corn Earworm Trap 2: 23



Enlist Training: <https://courses.uaex.edu/course/index.php?categoryid=79>

Paraquat Training: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/paraquat-dichloride-training-certified-applicators>

Beef & Forage

Hay: Hay harvest continued this week and it was a good week for hay. We have another opportunity to get recently harvested fields fertilized before a rain chance. We need to take advantage of this forecast and hopefully have a great second harvest. I have two hay multiplier fields that I scout weekly and work with the producers on fertilization, weeds and insects. Both fields were harvested over the last two weeks. The first cutting yields were pretty good but not as good as I hoped for. I am currently waiting on the quality samples to get back from the lab. I think early rains and fluctuating temperatures really hampered some of our first yields. Once I get in the quality samples I will report some of those yields.

Hay and Pasture Insects: I reestablished the bermudagrass stem maggot traps in two fields this week. I will continue to monitor those for any sign of the fly. I am also monitoring fields for armyworms. Continue to keep an eye out for them.

Hay Fertility/Broomsedge Demonstrations: I established three fertility/broomsedge demonstrations in the county this week. These plots will be multiyear demonstrations to look at increasing potassium levels to help battle broomsedge and promote more desirable warm season forage grasses. These plots will include nitrogen only, ½ a recommended rate, full recommended rate, 2X recommended rate and recommended rate plus fall potassium. My goal is to see some increased potassium numbers in the field plus see a decrease in broomsedge.

Pesticide Applicator Training

Anyone that needs a private applicators license can use the online course as their required training to obtain a license. The online training is located at www.uaex.edu/pat. The Arkansas State Plant Board has made an exception and will allow producers that are certifying for the first time to be able to use the online training.



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