

Faulkner County Agriculture Update

June 26, 2020

General Conditions

Weather: Rain this week was spotty over the county. The southern part of the county caught some storms on Tuesday and received around 2 inches of total rain for the week. Other parts of the county received almost an inch over a few different showers. We have good chances of rain next week in the forecast which will be good for our hay and soybean crops.

Arkansas River: The river sits at 250 feet and this is the lowest I have seen it in a year and half. I forgot what it looked like when it got this low. It is predicted to stay at this level the rest of the week.

Row Crop

Corn: Early planted corn started tasseling this week. Fields aren't tasseling uniformly, but that was expected with the wavy stands we have had. Most of the pre-tassel nitrogen applications have went out and now we switch to southern rust scouting. Most of the ears I have seen have been 14 row ears, but I haven't really looked at many. I am hoping we have more 16 row cobs out there as we move forward. Pollination will happen over the next week so make sure the corn isn't drought stressed at any point. Also as we move into reproduction we need to keep corn irrigated well to help fill out kernels.

There still isn't any southern rust in the state. We will keep scouting and if any is seen I will let everyone know.

Total Heat Units Accumulated Since April 18	Heat Units Accumulated June 20 – June 26
1435	189.5

Rice: More rice got fertilized and flooded this week. Fields that went to flood last week are starting to take in fertilizer and are looking really good. We are still battling grass on a few fields, but we are about to move on to reproductive stages. Green ring and internode elongation should begin on most of the fields next week. Sheath blight scouting should start on fields that are flooded.

As we hit green ring, we need to start looking at midseason nitrogen. Most of the varieties in the county will need 45 units (100 lbs of Urea) at midseason. If you planted a hybrid, it will not need a midseason application but a boot application of 30 units (65 lbs of Urea). Midseason nitrogen should be applied when we reach a minimum of 3 weeks after pre-flood nitrogen AND we are at green ring. Both of those conditions must be met to receive maximum benefit from midseason nitrogen.

Dr. Jarrod Hardke's 14th Arkansas Rice Update: <https://www.uaex.edu/farm-ranch/crops-commercial-horticulture/rice/Arkansas%20Rice%20Update%206-19-20.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: We had several acres of soybeans planted this past week and we had better emergence from these plantings than the week before the tropical storm. Most of the beans are VC to V3. I did see a few of the earliest planted fields flowering this week, but there are just a few of those fields.

First applications of Enlist are starting to go out on some fields with pigweed problems. There are different combinations being tried, but I still like Enlist One plus glyphosate now, followed by Liberty in a couple of weeks. I think that will give us the best control of our weed spectrum. Remember that if you want to go ahead and add Liberty to that mix you have to use Enlist One. Enlist Duo does not have Liberty listed as a tank mix partner on its label.

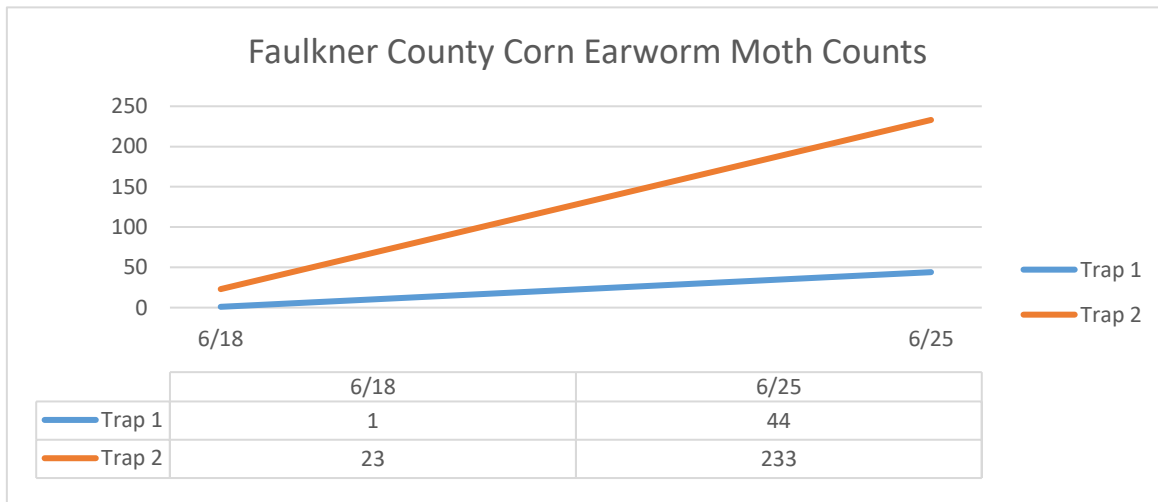
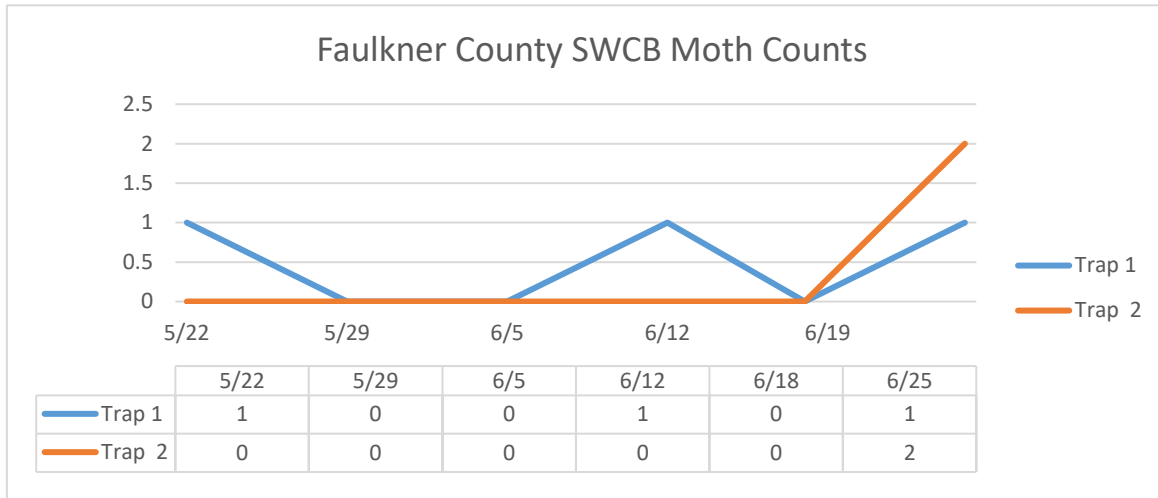
Keep an eye out for corn earworms. Moth trap levels are on the rise and we need to be scouting our beans watching out for damage.

SRVP (Soybean Research Verification Program) Field: The verification field was at V2 and is looking really good. We have a few spots that have some big pigweeds that weren't completely taken out by the burndown. We are going to try a full shot of 4.75 pints of Enlist Duo to start working on those big pigweeds. We will come back in a week or so with an application of Liberty to go ahead and take them out. Nutgrass in the field remains to be suppressed from the burndown application of glyphosate and Sharpen. I am hoping as we continue with the Enlist Duo and Liberty it will continue to keep it suppressed and allow the beans to shoot on up. The moisture sensor is starting to move in the 6 inch probe, but the 12 and 18 inch probes are still sitting at 0 which indicates good moisture still in the ground.

Moth Trap Counts for this week:

Southwestern Corn Borer traps continue to have low numbers. The corn earworm moth counts in trap 2 jumped really high this week, but it is close to a corn field so I expected that. I have been monitoring the beans around that trap and have not found any worms yet.

SWCB Trap 1: 1 Corn Earworm Trap 1: 44
SWCB Trap 2: 2 Corn Earworm Trap 2: 233



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 fields received some good rains around the county this week. After visiting a few fields I can really see bermudagrass responding to this hot humid weather. Some of the initial quality samples from the first cuttings look pretty good. We are way better than this time last year quality wise. I do think we lost a little overall yield with the wet spring, but all and all it has been a good first harvest. If you have horsenettle in your field and you want to spray Grazon, be aware that there is a 30 day waiting interval to cut hay behind Grazon P+D and 2,4-D. If you are using GrazonNext there is only a 7 day waiting interval. I talked to a few producers about using glyphosate this week at 10 to 12 ounces of 41% glyphosate per acre for crabgrass and foxtail. There is no waiting interval to cut hay behind glyphosate.

Hay and Pasture Insects: There were no bermudagrass stem maggot flies in the traps this week. I have heard of one agent in northeast Arkansas that may have found the adult fly in one field, but all the surrounding River Valley Agents have not found any yet.

I scouted a few hay and pastures for armyworms this week and still have not found any. There are no reports of armyworms in the state as of yet.

Fly Control: So I have gotten a few questions about fly control on cattle. We started out with bad gnat problems, then the mosquitos started coming on, and now it looks like we can add flies to that list. We have seen not only horn flies on the bodies, but face flies seem to be coming on also. There are a few things you can do for flies, and we need to mix up these different control options so we don't promote resistance.

Ear Tags can be used, but make sure you rotate the active ingredient. Don't use the same type tag year after year. I have talked to a few people who are using two tags per cow, turning one towards the face to help with face flies and the other turned toward the back of the cow. Use only one tag per calf.

There are several producers using the fly control mineral. This mineral as an insect growth regulator in it that stops the fly cycle by killing the larvae in the feces. This works well, but it takes some time to activate and start providing control. The other problem with this program is if you have neighboring cattle close to yours and they aren't using the mineral, then cattle can get flies from the other herds.

Pour-ons like Ivermectin, Ivomec, Cydectin, and Dectomax give some good control of horn flies along the body. If the population is bad enough this may be a good solution.

Different sprays are also available for cattle. Most of the sprays contain permethrin and can be mixed up and sprayed on the cattle. Check the animal section of the MP144 for different sprays that are available.

Here is a link to our publication on Controlling Horn Flies in Cattle:

<https://www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/FSA-7031.pdf>

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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