

Corn and Grain Sorghum Weekly Update – July 6, 2018

2018 Update No 14

Corn and Grain Sorghum Research Verification – Chuck Capps (Corn & GS Verification Coordinator)

All of our irrigated fields are being irrigated this week except for Mississippi County field which received almost 2" rain. Common rust has been found in all our Corn Research Verification Program fields but in very small amounts. Southern rust has not been found in the U.S. as of Thursday afternoon. We found a small amount of Diplodia leaf spot and Northern corn leaf blight in the Desha County CRVP this week and one leaf of Northern corn leaf blight in the Arkansas County CRVP field. This is the cleanest corn crop I have seen disease wise at this point of the growing season in a long time. We do have ear worms feeding on tips of ears as usually for this time of the season.

The two GSRVP fields have headed in significant portions of the fields and some heads have begun to flower. The Cross County field in Cherry Valley is more consistent across the field due to being irrigated. No sorghum midge were found this week and very few sorghum head worms. We saw a handful of stink bugs which were primarily rice stink bugs in our sampling. Very light insect pressure so far.

County	Crop	Heat Units	Crop Stage	Crop Update
Clay	Corn	1821	R2	Irrigation was started again on 7-3. A couple of rains let us go over 2 weeks with no irrigations. Very light common rust.
Jackson	Corn	1916.5	R3	Field was at R3 on Monday and is getting close to dough. Another field that is very clean disease wise.
Prairie	Corn	2074.5	R4	Field was starting in dough stage on Tuesday. We have been irrigating using both the moisture sensor data and irrigation scheduler to compare. They have both matched very closely in this field.
Desha	Corn	2303.5	R4/5	We had some kernels starting to dent on Wednesday. We found some leaves with Diplodia leaf spot and some with Northern corn leaf blight. It was primarily in one corner of the field and fairly light in that area.
Jefferson	Corn	1851	R3	Field was being irrigated on Monday and was pretty disease free except for a small amount of common rust. A little feeding on the end of ears by ear worms. Field is on Bayou Bartholomew and bollworm traps have been pretty active in that area.
Arkansas	Corn	1834.5	R3	We found one leaf with Northern corn leaf blight but should be of no concern at this point. I expect that the field will be at dough stage by early next week.

				Moisture sensors still show plenty of soil moisture from previous irrigation.
Chicot	Corn	1961	R3	Dryland field that is beginning to show effects of lack of rain as kernel size is smaller than irrigated fields as we move from R3 to R4.
Cross	GS		40% flowering	80-90% of field has headed with about 40% at flowering. Not much found in beat bucket samples except for a couple of sorghum head worms and maybe a ½ dozen rice stink bugs.
Arkansas	GS		Heading to flower	About ½ the field is starting to head with the other half beginning to flower. The dryer ridges in the field are behind the lower areas. Insect situation light like Cross county.
Mississippi	Corn	1894.5	R2	The field should be at R3 by today but was still at milk stage on Monday. This field has been fortunate in the amount of rainfall received.

North East Update – Stewart Runsick (Clay County)

Corn is in the R1-R3 growth stages. Corn is progressing well and so far is disease free. Southwestern Corn Borer trap catches remain low in Clay County. Counties further south are picking up larger numbers. Irrigation is the main activity going on now. It's been extremely hot and humid, producers are struggling to keep up with all the crop irrigations.

River Valley Update – Kevin VanPelt (Conway County)

Most of the corn crop in the River Valley has reached dough stage with some starting to dent. Keeping irrigation going is the main focus right now and at this point there's been no disease issues.