



# Cotton Comments

OSU Southwest Oklahoma Research and Extension Center  
Altus, OK

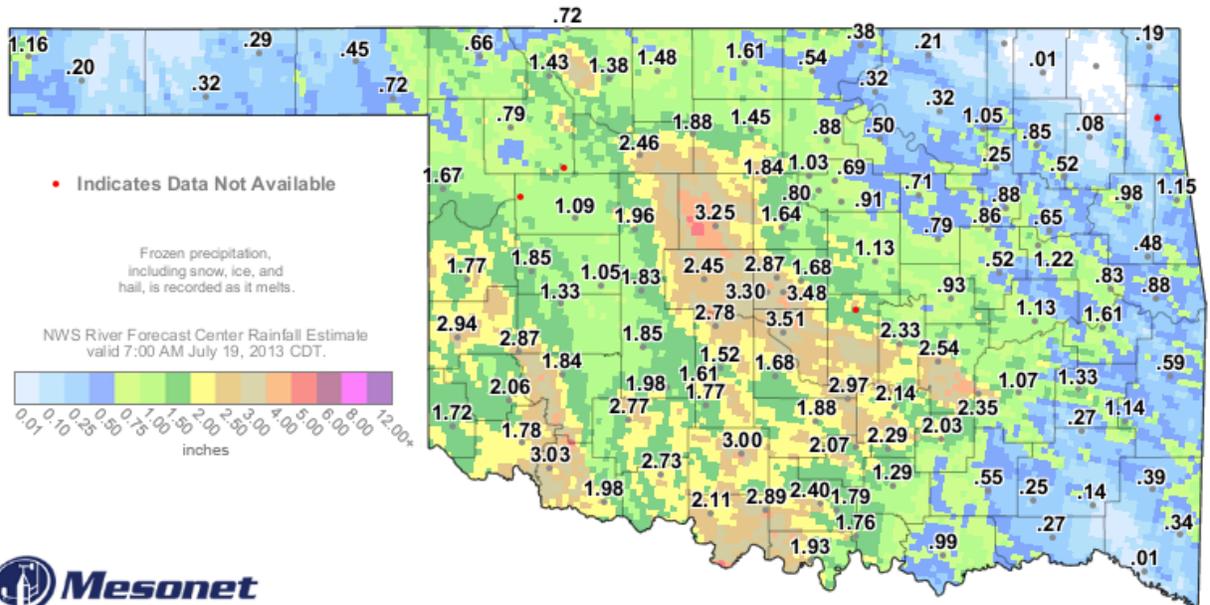


July 19, 2013

Volume 3 Edition 6

## Crop Situation Update

The drought has not been broken, but the recent low pressure system that moved from the northeast did prove to us that it CAN still rain in July! Temperatures were below average during the July 14-17 precipitation event, which was much appreciated by the crop as well as humans. Mesonet rainfall precipitation amounts for the state are presented below.



5-Day Rainfall (inches)

8:00 AM July 19, 2013 CDT  
Created 8:05:04 AM July 19, 2013 CDT. © Copyright 2013

The graphic indicates that a good 1.5 to 3 inch rainfall accumulation occurred across most of the cotton area in southwestern Oklahoma. This rainfall was very timely for a considerable amount of our cotton acreage. Based on the IPM surveys of crop progress at various locations, this means that a considerable amount of dryland production was saved and will continue to make good to excellent progress, even though many fields are somewhat late in development due to early to mid-June planting dates. These fields are making excellent progress. Observations of some of the June planted Tillman County dryland fields indicate that we are still approximately 10-14 days from blooming. The high rainfall accumulation – of which there was minimal runoff due to the multiple days of low intensity rainfall will ensure that this crop should have a good

fruit load going into early August. Another timely rainfall event in August could result in some good dryland production in 2013. The irrigated crop will be boosted considerably, especially where irrigation capacity is weak, or where salinity challenges may be encountered. Several of our irrigated sites are now well into bloom, with observations ranging from 7-10 nodes above white flower (NAWF). This is great news for the area.

IPM Extension Assistant Jerry Goodson has been on the road over the last week performing scouting and observations on crop progress. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, nodes above white flower (NAWF) at first bloom is an indicator of crop yield potential. We have many irrigated fields at the bloom stage now, and NAWF provides considerable insight with respect to crop yield potential. This week's summary of surveyed counties and fields is presented below.

#### IPM Field Surveys in Oklahoma - Week Ending July 19, 2013

Location	Date of planting	Plant Stage	Insects	Comments
Beckham Irrigated RACE - Damron	May 21	11 NAWF	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Blaine Irrigated Bayer CAP - Schantz	May 29	1/3 Grown Squares	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Caddo Irrigated OVT – OSU Station	May 23	10 NAWF	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Caddo Irrigated Dow Innovation 1st planting - Schantz	May 29	Pre Bloom	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Caddo Irrigated Dow Innovation 2nd planting - Schantz	June 6	1/3 Grown Squares	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Custer Irrigated Cotton Inc Enhanced Variety - Schantz	May 21	8 NAWF	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Harmon Irrigated Cotton Inc Enhanced Variety - Cox	May 17	9 NAWF	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Harmon Irrigated Bayer CAP - Strawn	June 4	Matchhead Squares	None	Growth Progress Fair
Harmon Irrigated Bayer CAP - Horton	May 16	7 NAWF	None	Growth Progress Fair
Kiowa Irrigated Topguard - Anderson	May 24	9 NAWF	None	Growth Progress Fair
Jackson Irrigated RACE - Darby	May 16	7 NAWF	None	Growth Progress Fair
Jackson Irrigated OVT - Altus Station (no water)	June 4	Pinhead Squares	None	Growth Progress Fair
Jackson Irrigated Monsanto FACT - Altus Station (no water)	June 5	8 <sup>th</sup> Tru Leaf	None	Growth Progress Fair
Jackson Irrigated Weed Control Trials - Altus Station (no water)	June 6	6 <sup>th</sup> Tru Leaf	None	Growth Progress Fair
Tillman Irrigated RACE - McCullough	May 23	8 NAWF	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Tillman Dryland RACE -	June 14	Pinhead	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good

Fischer		Squares		
Tillman Dryland Topguard - Fischer	June 13	Pinhead Squares	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Tillman Dryland Monsanto FACT - (Tipton Station)	June 11	Match Head Squares	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Tillman Dryland OVT - (Tipton Station)	June 11	Match Head Squares	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Good
Washita Dryland RACE - Davis	June 4	1/3 Grown Squares	Grasshoppers	Growth Progress Fair

RACE – Replicated Agronomic Cotton Evaluation Trial (Oklahoma Cooperative Extension)

CAP – Cotton Agronomic Plot (Bayer CropScience)

OVT – Official Variety Trial (Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station, Altus, Tipton, Fort Cobb)

The table below presents accumulated heat units and cotton crop evapotranspiration (ET) for the Mesonet sites listed. These data are based on a May 20<sup>th</sup> planting date.

Location	For May 20 planting date			
	DD60 heat unit accumulation	3-day accumulated ET	7-day accumulated ET	14-day accumulated ET
	heat units	----- inches -----		
<b>Altus</b>	<b>1259</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>1.19</b>	<b>3.07</b>
<b>Tipton</b>	<b>1267</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>1.26</b>	<b>3.15</b>
<b>Hollis</b>	<b>1225</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>1.25</b>	<b>3.09</b>
<b>Erick</b>	<b>1108</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>2.99</b>
<b>Ft. Cobb</b>	<b>1080</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>2.62</b>

## Management Issues

Producers should be ready to complete any nitrogen fertilization as soon as possible. Also, there is no doubt we have another weed flush coming our way. Weeds that were previously hardened off by drought and high temperatures should be easier to control. The sooner the applications are made, the better.

Plant growth regulators will be in order for some locations, especially irrigated fields where substantial rainfall has occurred. [Click here for Cotton Growth Regulators – Producer Handout](#) . This publication includes a list of newer varieties, their growth habits, and potential PGR management concerns.

RB



Tillman County Dryland No-Till RACE Trial – Planted June 14th,  
currently about 14 days from bloom.



Tillman County Furrow Irrigated RACE Trial – Planted May 23rd,  
currently about 5 days past first bloom, and at 8 NAWF.

## Rains Bring Heavy Weed Infestations

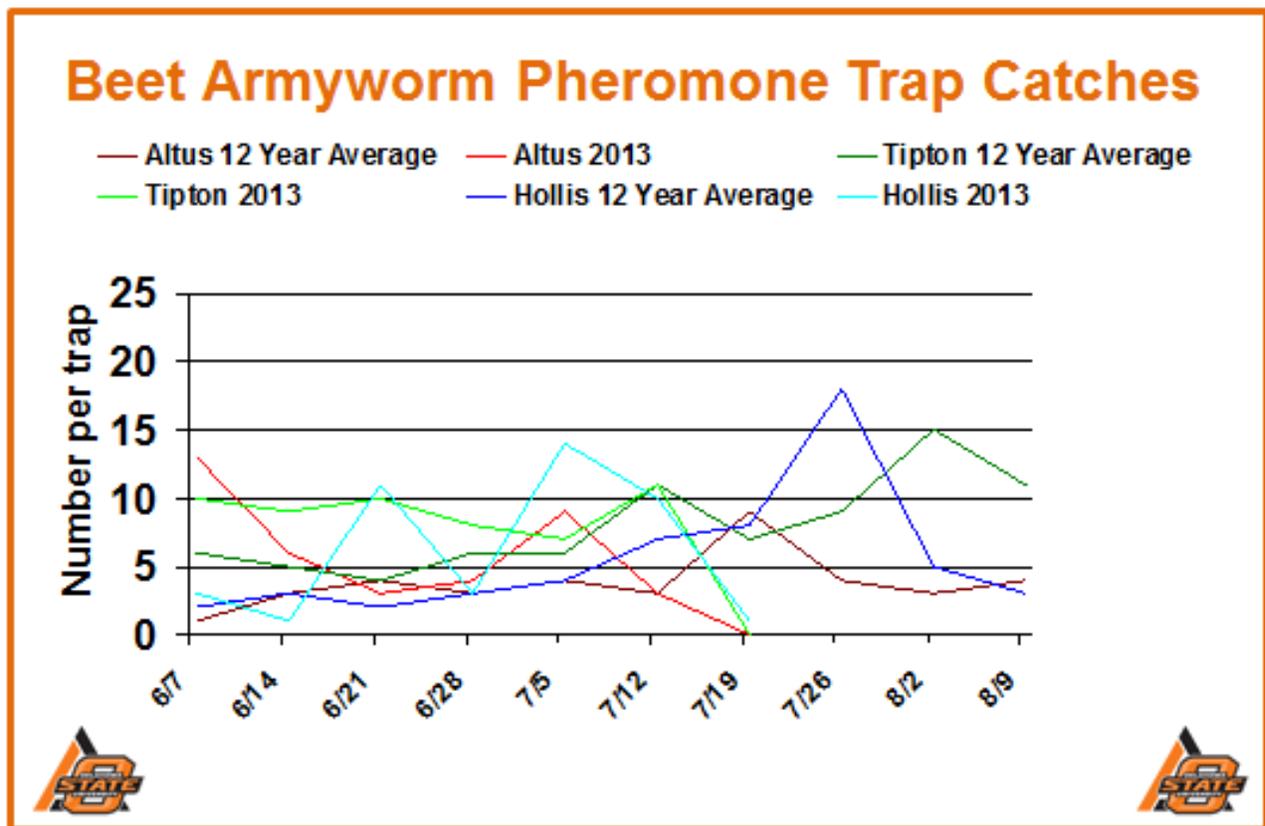
Recent rains have improved our attitude but the ensuing weed explosion seems to be reigning in our excitement. In many fields where weed populations prior to the rains seemed to be almost stagnate they now seem to be out of control or quickly headed towards that category. Pigweeds and morningglory can grow extremely fast when resources are available so thorough scouting is key in order to stay on schedule. The May 30<sup>th</sup> Cotton Comments newsletter ([Cotton Comments May 30, 2013](#)) mentioned several early season broadcast over-the-top herbicide options. Depending on the stage of your cotton those options may still be viable considerations. However, many fields have progressed enough that broadcast over-the-top applications may not be sufficient for effective coverage/control. Also, some of the products mentioned in that newsletter have limitations as to how late you may spray over the top of cotton (Prowl, Dual, Warrant). It may be necessary to re-read the product stage limitations in that newsletter to help determine your options at your current crop stage. If indeed you have passed some of these limits or your crop's growth could limit broadcast coverage many products require the use of a hooded sprayer. Several herbicide options exist when using hooded sprayers and each one has its own set of guidelines. Tank-mixing with glyphosate is still highly recommended. The early-season tank-mix partners (Warrant, Prowl H20, Dual) may still be used through a hooded sprayer but we need to remember that these products provide no additional burndown activity and therefore the burden of controlling emerged weeds falls solely on the glyphosate. Also previously mentioned, Staple LX herbicide can be tank-mixed with glyphosate and adds additional burndown as well as residual weed control (note crop rotation restrictions on label). Regardless of the herbicide program, using a hooded sprayer effectively requires a certain amount of understanding. Most have heard the detrimental effects that speed can have on broadcast applications. Slowing down when using a hooded sprayer is twice as important compared to broadcast applications. Coverage is key and there are some things to remember to ensure that we achieve adequate coverage. First, make sure the targeted spray volume agrees with the product labeling. Most products applied under a hood do not perform well at low volumes. Secondly, learn to treat this application or trip like you're cultivating 1-2 leaf cotton. Slow and precise is the preferred mode of operation. Most of the traditional post-directed or hooded sprayer treatments (Aim + Direx, Caparol + MSMA, Glyphosate + Direx, etc.) that are effective at helping to burn down late flushes of weeds may also injure your cotton if not used properly (some have height requirements, some have bark requirements, some have both). These products are not intended to come in contact with green cotton stem tissue. However, when used properly they do a great job. **Reading the product labeling is mandatory.**

## Insect Update

After conversations with various consultants and conducting field surveys in nine counties this week, the insect outlook is as follows: Light infestations of pests continue. Grasshoppers are still a concern. Previously stated in Cotton Comments Grasshopper control is always best when the nymph stage is targeted and control is harder to achieve as the pest molts and matures. If questions arise, please contact this office and we can discuss the best strategy for the specific situation. Several fields are blooming at this time. The rainfall has moved some fields that were rated poor last week into the fair category. If you have any questions, please contact Extension personnel.

## Moth Activity

All moth traps are below the 12-year average. Little activity was observed in surveyed fields.

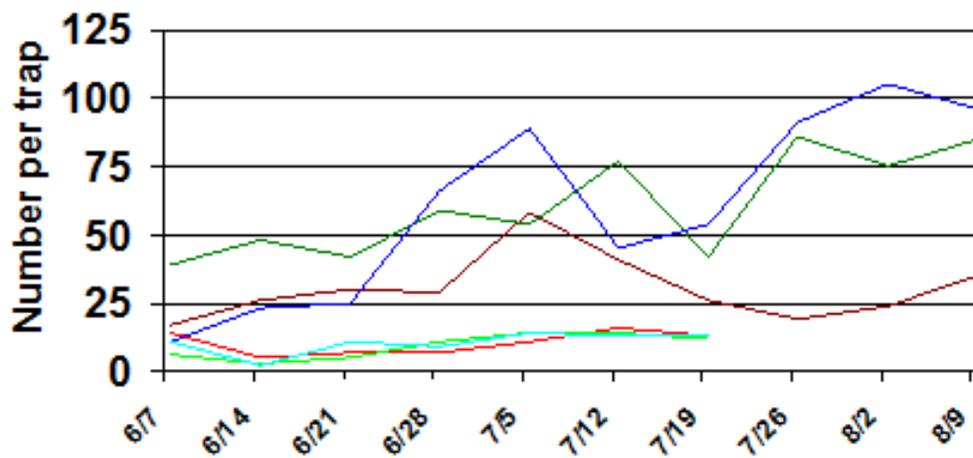




Beet armyworm moth

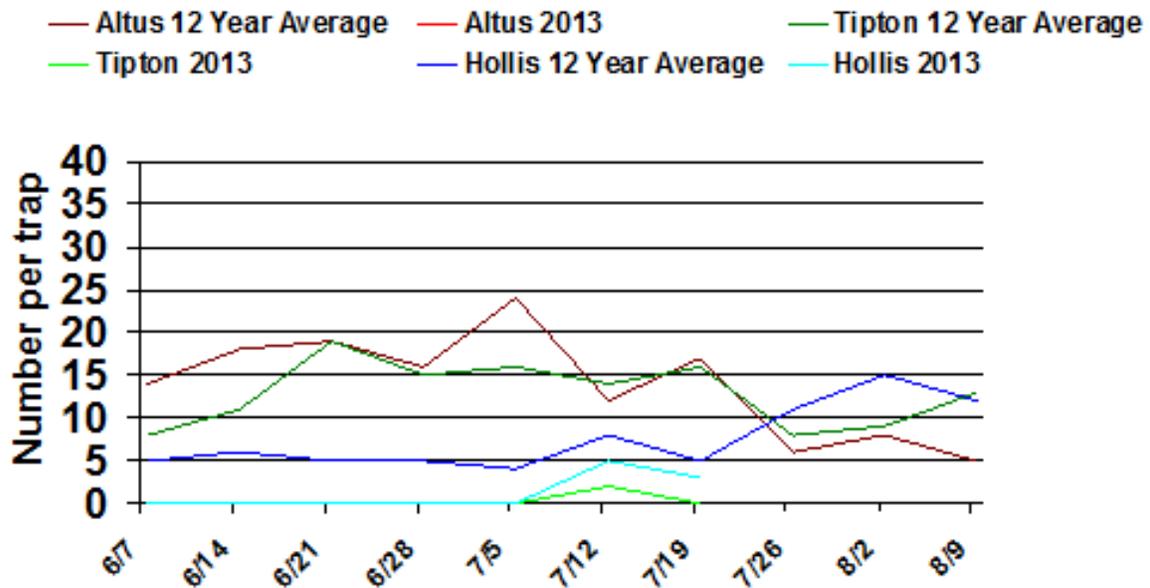
## Cotton Bollworm Pheromone Trap Catches

— Altus 12 Year Average    — Altus 2013    — Tipton 12 Year Average  
 — Tipton 2013    — Hollis 12 Year Average    — Hollis 2013



Cotton bollworm moth

## Tobacco Budworm Pheromone Trap Catches



Tobacco budworm moth

JG

### Upcoming Meeting

A producer meeting will be held in Caddo County at Merlin Schantz's Headquarters on July 22, 2013 9:30 AM. This is located northwest of Hydro. Please contact this office or the Caddo County Extension Office for further details.

Please give credit to this newsletter if any information is reproduced or incorporated in any other communications. Thank you.

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