Cotton Catchment Communities CRC

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

COTTON *TALES*

Gwydir Valley *"What's happening in the north west"*

Julie O'Halloran, Cotton Industry Development Officer – 6752 5111, 0427 018 684

2006/07
5.
30/12/06

Climate seminars

Moree
Tuesday 5th December
2 pm - 5 pm
OR
6.30 pm- 9.30 pm
Former Rugby League Club
114 Anne St Moree

Topics

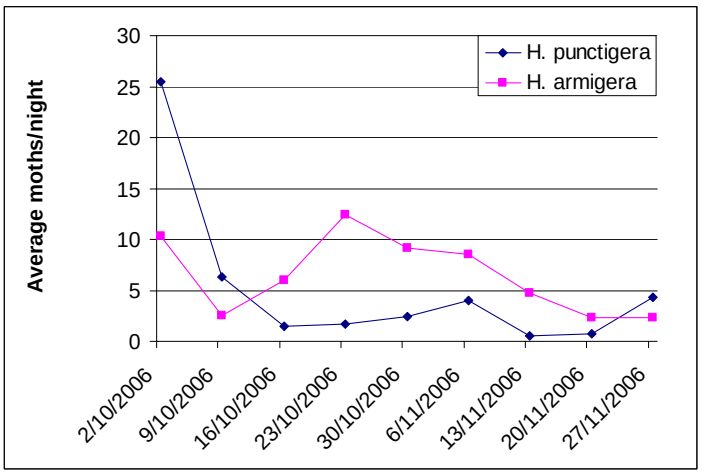
- Droughts and flooding rains – climate variability in NSW
- Mercury rising? – the latest on climate change
- Current climate conditions and outlooks for northern NSW
- Meeting the challenge – farming in a variable and changing climate

Speakers

- Perry Wiles, *NSW Climate Services Centre, Bureau of Meteorology*
- Paul Carberry, *NSW DPI*

For further information call 02 9296 1555.

Pheromone trap data



Pheromone trap data from west of Moree until Nov 27th 2006. Both H. armigera and H. punctigera numbers have been low.

As is normal, inland breeding prompted the H. punctigera pressure experienced in early September, but this year's spring migration was not of the same magnitude as that of last September, nor was there the species diversity.

High pulse grain prices saw vigilant monitoring and low economic thresholds being used in most of the spring host crops this year. Consequently breeding opportunities for the first local H. punctigera generation have remained low through late October and into November. The expectation is that H. punctigera pressure will be low this summer, as compared to recent seasons.

H. armigera numbers are currently low. With the increased plantings of grain sorghum and corn (preferred H. armigera host crops) there is the potential for local production of H. armigera populations through summer, despite the proportion of Bollgard II® cotton.

Day degree update

Cumulative day degrees since October 1 are slightly less than the long term average. There have been 9 cold shock days since the 1st October with 4 in a row from 15th Nov to 18th Nov. This compares with 12 for the same period last year. Cold shock days are those where the daily minimum temperature falls below 11°C. There have been 11 hot days since October 1 compared with 5 for the same period last season. Hot days are those where the maximum daily temperature is ≥ 36°C.

	1st Oct-30th Nov Day degrees	Cold shocks	Hot days
2006/07	*691*	*9*	*11*
2005/06	*673*	*12*	*5*
LTA	*603*	*15*	*5*

The Crop Development Tool on the Cotton CRC website – www.cotton.crc.org.au – allows you to easily enter information about your crop, such as plant height, nodes/plant, squares/m and squaring nodes/plant, to generate a comparison between your crops actual rate of development and its theoretical potential. On rare occasions, where there are optimum growing conditions, crop development may be ahead of the 'potential' indicated in the CDT. Mostly, this exercise will help to identify the degree of influence things such as cold shocks, hot days, black root rot or sucking pests are having on crop development. The slope of your line compared to the slope of the 'potential' line is the critical thing to monitor. A change in the slope will highlight that there is some form (or forms) of stress influencing the crops development rate. Data needs to be collected at least weekly for a meaningful comparison.

Clarification of zones

Attached is clarification of neighbour notification and buffer zones for Pesticide Application Management Plans from Cotton Australia.