Cotton Comments

OSU Southwest Oklahoma Research and Extension Center
Altus, OK

2018 Current Situation

14-Day Rainfall Accumulation (inches)

7:25 AM May 17, 2018 CDT
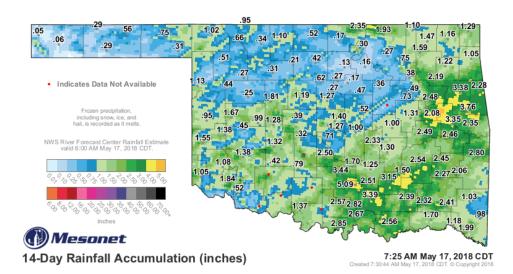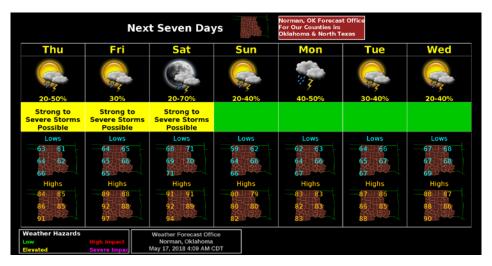Created 7:30:44 AM May 17, 2018 CDT. © Copyright 2018

Much needed rain has falling over most of the state with the exception of some areas in the Northwest being the largest area. The forecast is calling for rain for the next 7 days, hopefully these areas will received the rainfall they need. With favorable temperatures cotton emergence should not be problem when planting resumes.

Each field needs to be evaluated separately on planting conditions to ensure success.

Crop Update

Cotton planting has begun. The earliest I have been told was April 29 in Tillman County. Several fields were planted in Jackson County started around May 4 and continuing the following week. After a field survey emergence has been inconstant with some fields having excellent emergence to spotty to some not even sprouting 7 days after planting. Hopefully with beneficial rains this will quickly turn around. The most advance field observed was at 1st tru-leaf. This is critical time for Thrips control, please refer back to Cotton Comments Volume 8 edition 3 May 3, 2018 for Thrips control issues.

After emergence scouting of the field must start and continue on a weekly basis until termination of the crop.
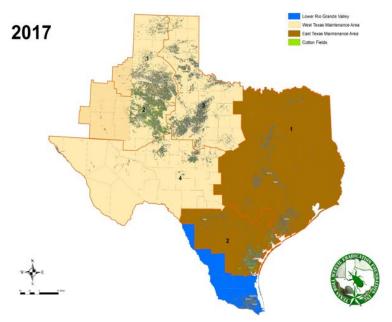

Cotton Inc. Enhanced Variety Trial on Clint Abernathy farm, Altus, Oklahoma. May 16, 2018, seven days after planting (7DAP). The cotton is emerging and was able to "row" it.

Oklahoma Boll Weevil Eradication Organization Update: Quarantine of Cotton Harvesting Equipment Coming From Certain Areas of Texas

John Henderson, Director of the Oklahoma Boll Weevil Organization, based at Altus, provided the information below. Eradication of the boll weevil across most of the U.S. Cotton Belt, and in the state has been very successful and is a major contributing factor to the continued profitability of cotton production. It has been a long, difficult, and expensive task to rid our state and most of the Cotton Belt of this invasive species that for such a long time negatively impacted our production. There is still a difficult fight with this insect pest in south Texas, and we all need to do our part in keeping this pest from resurfacing in our state.

Cotton harvesting equipment entering Oklahoma from two eradication areas in Texas has to be certified as boll weevil free prior to movement into our state. Please contact t equipment departure from these two areas. This will allow TBWEF to inspect the equipment. A USDA-APHIS phytosanitary certificate is issued and is required before equipment can be transported from these areas. These ONLY include the Lower Rio Grande Valley Eradication Zone (blue area on the map below) or the East Texas Maintenance Area (brown area on the map below). This is critical to meet USDA-APHIS requirements and prevent the re-infestation of boll weevils into eradicated areas. It is illegal to move non-certified cotton harvesting equipment from these areas into the state of Oklahoma.

Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation: 325-672-2800
After Hours and Weekends: 325-668-7361

Oklahoma Boll Weevil Eradication Organization:
580-477-4280 Office
580-471-7962   John Henderson Cell

The Cotton Comments Newsletter is maintained by Jerry Goodson, Extension Assistant. If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, send a request to:

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