



Current Crop and Insect Situation:

GROWING CONDITIONS

We are experiencing good growing conditions as most fields are receiving their 2nd watering and the temperature exceeds 100+ degrees each day. During this time squares are being produced at fruiting positions and the first bloom will occur in 1 to 2 weeks. Fleahoppers (fig 1) are a threat until the first white flower.



Figure 1

FLEAHOPPER CONTROL

When following good IPM practices, fleahoppers should be controlled only when thresholds are exceeded to protect beneficial insects since they help control later occurring

pests. After July 25th, the control of cotton fleahoppers generally is not economical due to Oklahoma's short growing season. Spray decisions should be based on the squaring rate and level of cotton fleahopper infestations. Usually when cotton fleahoppers (adults and nymphs) reach or exceed 40 per 100 terminals,

squaring rates begin to decline, justifying treatment. However, if cotton fleahopper numbers build slowly, fields can tolerate higher number of cotton fleahoppers before a reduction in squaring rate will occur. **In most cases, fields will no longer be vulnerable to cotton fleahoppers once they begin to bloom.**

Chemicals that are approved for use to control the cotton fleahopper include: Bidrin, Dimethioate (Cygon), Centric, Intruder, Orthene, Steward, Thiodan, Trimax, and Vydate. Consult your local OSU County Ag Educator on specific chemicals. Always consult the label for details, restrictions and limitations.

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