



Current Crop and Insect Situation:

Plant growth is still slow across most of Oklahoma. With the forecast in the low 90's hopefully this will change and producers will be able to take advantage of the abundant moisture conditions. Most cotton is still in the "hands off" stage, but producers who have sprayed for Cotton Fleahoppers need to recheck their fields as soon as possible as with the recent showers the insecticide may have been washed off before adequate control was established.

The following is an excerpt from "Talking Cotton" by J.C. Banks. J.C.'s weekly update of the Oklahoma cotton season can be found at <http://ntokcotton.org/>.

I never expected to be discussing too much water, especially since the drought of last summer, but we have some areas that have waterlogged soils and the cotton is not growing as fast as it should. These plants are a dull yellow in appearance, especially in the new growth coming from the top of the plant. Water and oxygen are present in soil between the soil particles, and oxygen as well as water is needed for plant metabolism and growth. Oxygen is a key component of physiological reactions taking place in the plant. When oxygen is limited, these reactions are slow. Root growth is hindered as well as top growth on the plant. At this stage in development,

cotton needs rapidly growing roots to explore the soil for nutrients.

A waterlogged soil will normally show a deficiency in phosphorus and potassium, even when these nutrients are present in the soil in adequate amounts. Roots are not growing fast enough to expose the root hairs to enough nutrients. On clean tilled soils, normally a cultivation or rotary hoeing as soon as it is possible to get into the field will aerate the soil enough to allow the plant to recuperate more rapidly. In no-tilled areas the soil is normally oxygenated enough due to passages in the soil caused by decaying roots from previous vegetation and earthworm activity.

In our area we can't complain about summer rain because we know it is replenishing soil profile water that will be needed later. For this reason, we are willing to tolerate a reduced growth rate now in favor for a strong finish in August.

State of Oklahoma cotton.



Pre-squaring cotton

What is it??



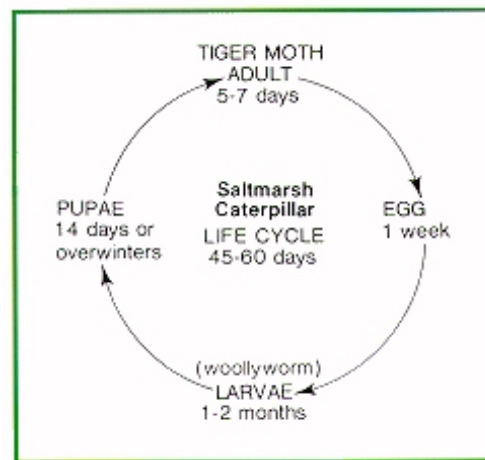
Photo credit: W. L. Sterling, Department of Entomology, Texas A&M University

For those you have seen this hairy caterpillar recently in cotton fields and wonder what in the world is THAT, the answer is a Saltmarsh Caterpillar. Saltmarsh Caterpillar seldom occurs in large enough numbers to create a problem in Oklahoma. However, this year Johnny Hamilton has reported one field that the edges of the field were damaged enough that it had to be replanted.

The Saltmarsh Caterpillar, grows to 2 inches, has short bristles and longer, whitish hairs covering its yellow to dark brown body. Adult moths (2 inch wingspan) are white, with the forewings having some small black spots and the abdomen yellow with black spots.

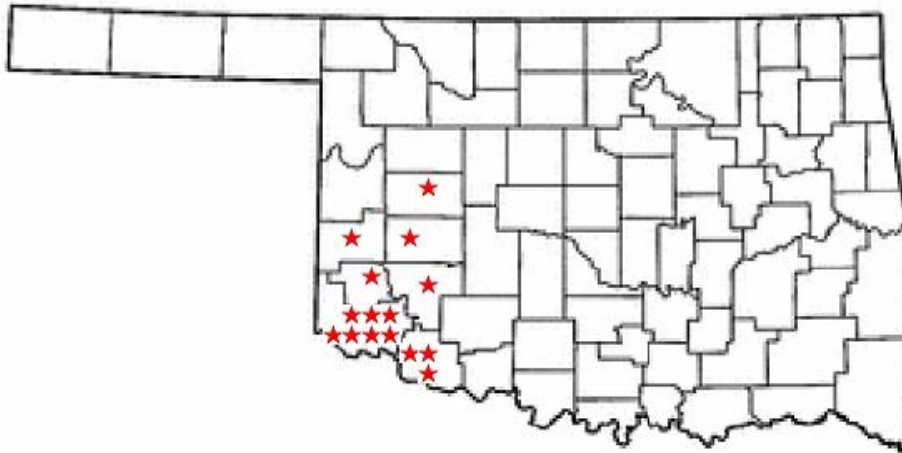


The life cycle of the Saltmarsh Caterpillar is:



Populations of this pest seldom develop into damaging numbers until late in the season after bolls have already matured. But, as reported, populations this year may cause damage. Defoliation in late season usually does not cause economic loss. If you think you have a problem, please contact this office.

Extension Cotton Variety Trial Locations

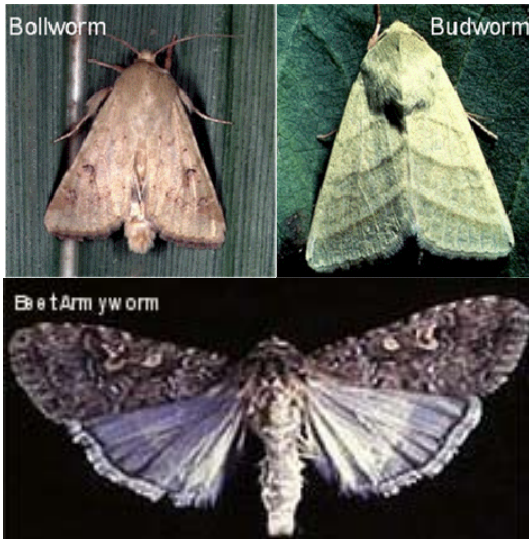


The week ending June 15

Location	Growth stage	Insects
Beckham	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Custer	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Greer	4 th Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Jackson	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Jackson	2 nd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Jackson	2 nd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Jackson	2 nd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Jackson	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Jackson	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Harmon	4 th TruLeaf	2 Thrip per plant
Kiowa	2 nd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Tillman	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Tillman	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Tillman	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant
Washita	3 rd Truleaf	< 1 Thrip per plant

MOTH TRAPS:

Week of	Bollworm			
	Altus	Hollis	Manchester	Tipton
June 9	34	23	NA	115
June 16	22	18	NA	89
	Budworm			
	Altus	Hollis	Manchester	Tipton
June 10	3	0	NA	16
June 17	6	4	NA	14
	Beet Armyworm			
	Altus	Hollis	Manchester	Tipton
June 10	7	9	NA	11
June 17	10	10	NA	17



Photos courtesy of Texas A&M

GROWING DEGREE DAY:

A Growing Degree Day (GDD) is defined as 24 hours of time in which the temperature is one degree above the lower temperature threshold (60°F - 100°F). By using this range and the high and low temperatures for each day of the growing season, the amount of heat available to the cotton, measured in day degrees, can be calculated. The heat unit data is collected from *Mesonet weather network* weekly.

Cotton Growth Timetable

<u>Stage of Growth</u>	<u>GDD</u>	<u>Days</u>
Emergence	50 - 60	3 - 4
Pinhead Square	425 - 500	25 - 45
First Bloom	725 - 825	41 - 67
Open Boll	1575 - 1925	102 - 127
Defoliation	2150 - 2300	120 - 140

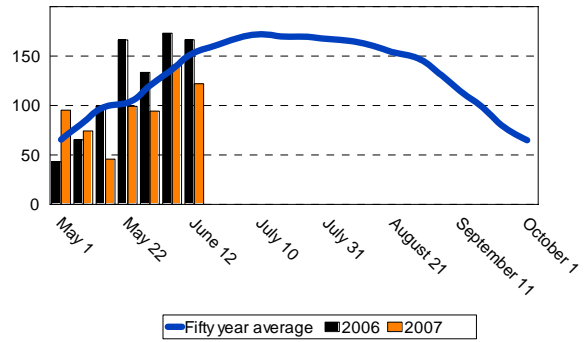
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Altus

Growing Degree Days (GDD)

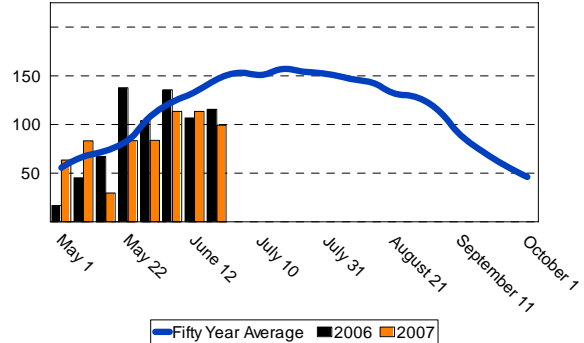
<u>Week of</u>	<u>50 year</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
May 1	65.5	43.1	95.3
May 8	82.9	65.3	74.2
May 15	98.6	99.7	45.8
May 22	102.9	166.3	99.2
May 29	120.0	133.4	94.2
June 5	134.4	173.1	140.7
June 12	153.4	166.4	121.9
Total	757.7	847.3	671.3



Blackwell

Growing Degree Days (GDD)

<u>Week of</u>	<u>50 year</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
May 1	55.6	16.8	63.4
May 8	67.5	45.2	83.1
May 15	73.2	67.1	29.6
May 22	84.6	137.8	83.3
May 29	108.8	104.1	83.6
June 5	133.6	106.7	113.4
June 12	146.4	115.6	99.3
Total	669.7	593.3	555.7



Hobart

Growing Degree Days (GDD)

<u>Week of</u>	<u>50 year</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
May 1	62.3	31.4	76.2
May 8	76.2	22.4	65.4
May 15	84.9	86.2	32.3
May 22	94.7	164.2	86.4
May 29	119.8	115.3	76.7
June 5	136.9	171.7	122.3
June 12	145.9	142.9	112.7
Total	720.7	734.1	572.0

