

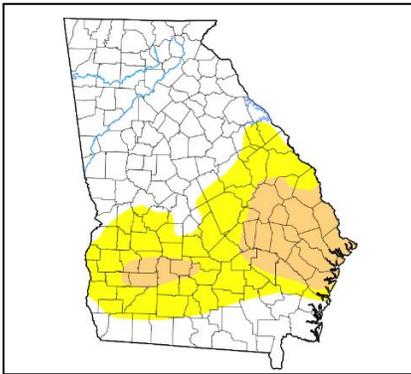
## IRWIN COUNTY EXTENSION AGRICULTURE NEWS - Vol. 14 Wed. Apr. 27, 2022

**Phillip Edwards Irwin County Extension Coordinator**

*In this issue: Recent, Meetings/Events, Irrigating Wheat, Planting Data, Ga Pest Handbook, Row Crop Disease Update, GA Pesticide License, Using Pesticides Wisely Training, Paraquat Training, Irwin Co. Rabies Clinic, Cotton Thrips Management, Important Links and Info*

### Recent

*Our soil temperatures seem to rise quickly once we get to this time of the year. May is typically our driest month and it looks like we're getting a jump on the dry part already. A good gentle rain is needed. In checking soil temperatures in our area weather stations in Tifton, Alapaha, Douglas and Arabi our 4-inch soil temperatures are above 70 degrees. This is a good webpage <http://georgiaweather.net> to bookmark to see soil temperatures and even rainfall totals season long. Cotton and peanut production guides are available at our office.*



Georgia <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



Irwin 4-H Club Shotgun Practice at Big Creek



Irwin County 4-H Poultry Judging Team at Tifton District Contest



Irwin County 4-H Club Team and Coaches at 4-H Qualifying Match

**Meetings/Events – Please call if you have any questions and to sign up for these meetings in BOLD – WATCH FOR UPDATES, ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS. All of the times are correct. Pesticide credits for meetings in BOLD.**

Meeting/Events	Date	Location
SE Pecan Grafting Clinic	Tue Apr 26, 2022	Blackshear, GA (see below)
GA Pesticide Clean Day (register by tomorrow)	Tue May 3, 2022	GA National Fairgrounds Perry (see attached)
Irwin County Rabies Clinic	Sat May 9, 2022 8am – 12 noon	Irwin Animal Clinic (see below)

### Irrigating Wheat and other Small grains

We know that small grains yield better with a dry sunny spring but we can benefit from irrigation at times, especially during grain fill. Dr. Wes Porter, UGA, says he normally recommends ET replacement on small grains and this time of year we are at or above .10" to .15" per day putting us at 0.75 to 1" per week. And this follows the Univ. of Florida small grains crop water use curve in the 2<sup>nd</sup> slide below as well. You can get the ET rates from your local UGA weather station.

We need to avoid watering during bloom to keep from making Fusarium Head scab disease worse. Then, follow the ET rates or as a rough guide: 0.75 to 1 inch a week if we don't get it from rain or snow, lol. Stop watering when we get to the hard dough stage if we have moisture.

## Irrigation of Small Grains

- Do better with a dry spring – Sunshine
- Can benefit from water during Grain fill especially
- 1:1 with ET rates is ok( per Dr. Wes Porter)
- Try not to water during bloom

Water just before that at Flag leaf and continue after blooming – 0.75 to 1 inch a week with checkbook method

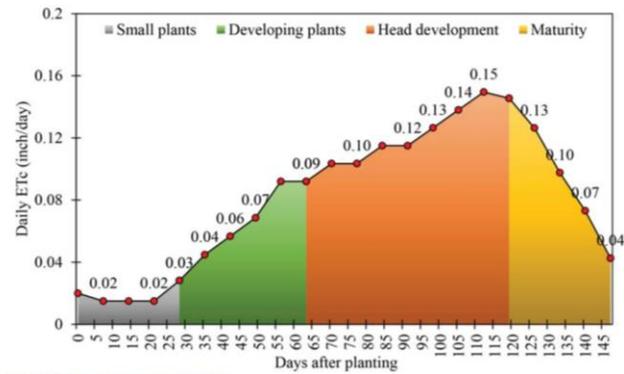


Figure 13. Small grains crop water use (inches/day).  
Credits: Vivek Sharma, UF/IFAS

CROP WATER USE AND  
IRRIGATION SCHEDULING  
GUIDE FOR NORTH  
FLORIDA<sup>1</sup>

**0.75 to 1 inch per  
week during  
Grain Fill**

## Tips for Collecting Quality Planting Data Virk



With all the advanced planting technology available today, numerous planting metrics including population, singulation, and spacing quality can be displayed and mapped simultaneously on the planter displays, also commonly referred to as seed monitors. In precision ag, planting data is gaining more interest recently as it can provide valuable insights into planter performance in the field as well as serve as an important data layer that can be referenced for making in-season crop management decisions during the season. With additional capabilities on modern planting systems to precisely control and monitor other inputs such as fertilizer and pesticides, as-applied data from a planter can also provide useful information on what, where, and how much of different products were applied in the furrow, all of which is highly important information when troubleshooting stand establishment or emergence issues in a field.

While all that sounds pretty good, it is important to mention, and if you haven't heard it already from somewhere, the insights provided by the planting data are only as good as the quality of the data collected. This is true for any type of ag data collected on a farm today as information from erroneous data can lead to some poor management decisions and could even end up being costly in some cases. For growers utilizing planting data in their farm operation in one way or the other, it is important to ensure that the data being collected is accurate and of highest quality.

Here are few considerations to avoid some common errors and ensure quality data collection during planting:

- **Planter Configuration and Section Control:** In order to collect and map accurate data while planting, proper planter configuration including the length and width of the planting equipment, total number of rows, and row width in the seed

monitor is critical. If section or individual row control capabilities are present on the planter, it is important to verify that the number of sections and width of each section are entered correctly, and auto section/row control is enabled. All this should be a part of pre-plant technology inspection and can easily be done before getting out in the field.

- **GPS Accuracy and Offsets:** Since any ag data including planting is spatially mapped using real-time GPS position (latitude and longitude) in the field, the setup and accuracy of the GPS system plays a big part in how accurately the planting data is being displayed and recorded during planting. Similar to the planter configuration, GPS offsets including exact location of the GPS on the tractor and from the planter should be entered correctly to prevent any errors such as data logging out of the field boundary, unnecessary overlap or skips between the passes in the planting data.
- **Calibration:** Planted population – one of the main planting metrics – is measured using a seed sensor installed on the seed tube. It is common to have a seed sensor malfunction or provide inaccurate readings due to an obstruction in the seed tube. Hydraulic driven planters also require a correct gear ratio to be entered into the planter display to control and achieve target seeding rate. Most modern planting systems have an option to perform a static calibration test to check the accuracy of seed metering system for the whole planter and even for individual row units in some cases. This step also helps in verifying if the correct crop kit including the seed disc for the crop being planted is installed in the seed meters and is functioning properly. If utilizing planter display to meter and place any other inputs, make sure to calibrate and verify the accuracy of those systems as well.
- **Field Names and Jobs:** One of the most common issues with as-planted data is the presence of data from multiple fields together in a single job or under the same field name. This makes it harder to visualize data for each field separately and often requires some sort of post-processing to split and assign data to individual fields. It is always a good practice to name each field distinctly as well as to start and end the planting job within that field to keep data clean and organized. This becomes even more important when planting multiple varieties and/or seeding rates across the farm as one of the main benefits of planting data is being able to track planting metrics including crop varieties and seeding rates from one field to another.
- **Planting Prescriptions:** If using any planting prescriptions to automatically vary seeding rates within the fields, proper equipment setup along with GPS offsets (as mentioned above) are crucial for the planter to successfully apply the assigned seeding rates within each zone. When loading prescription maps, make sure it is in the correct file format and the appropriate rate column (with right units) is selected in the planter display to read the planting prescription correctly. Appropriate look-ahead distance based on the planting speed and size of the seeding rate zones should also be checked and entered correctly for planter to transition smoothly between the prescribed rates.
- **Data Transfer:** Ensuring proper data quality does not end in the field with planting but should be followed all the way through until the data has been successfully transferred into a data management software or an application. If enabled and active, most new planter displays have capabilities of wirelessly transferring planting data into their own respective data management software's, whether available as an online web or desktop application. If this functionality is not present or enabled, data should be transferred using an external storage device from the seed monitor to a computer. While the specific timeline for transferring this data depends on what and how this data will be utilized, it is generally recommended that the sooner the better.

In summary, planting data can be a useful layer when used appropriately for evaluating planter performance and/or assessing crop stand in the field. The quality of planting data is an important aspect and should always be taken into consideration, especially when making any management decisions based on this data.

#### **GA Pest Management Handbook is Available Online – We can order printed copies for you - just call our office**

Follow current recommendations in 2022 GA Pest Management Handbook <https://extension.uga.edu/programs-services/integrated-pest-management/publications/handbooks.html>

#### **Row Crop Disease Update Kemerait**

Management of tomato spotted wilt ([www.peanutrx.org](http://www.peanutrx.org)) requires the right variety + the right planting date + the right choice of insecticide + the right plant population (combination of seeding rate and seed quality and protection of seedlings from diseases and insects). Management of nematodes requires good decisions at planting. The best decisions for managing nematodes require what? The BEST decisions as far as nematodes go require that a grower has some prior understanding of what the risk to nematode is in a specific field before they plant. Field history, history of crop rotation (or lack of rotation) and soil samples collected late last year for nematode analysis all help to make BEST decisions.

Considerations for now:

1. In Georgia, at least south of the "Gnat Line", we had a fairly mild 2021-2022 winter. Regrowth cotton and volunteer peanuts and corn survived longer than was helpful and fed the nematodes that didn't want to go to bed for the winter

because soils were warm enough to keep them active. Nematodes in warmer winter soils with a food source just want to stay up late and that leads to more nematodes.

2. Cotton growers should consider the following in their nematode management plans. a) Are nematodes a threat to the cotton in their fields? If the answer is "no", then don't worry about them this year. If the answer is "yes" or "I don't know", then growers should consider ways to protect their cotton crop. c) A good way to protect the crop is to plant varieties resistant to root-knot or root-knot and reniform nematodes (unless the problem in the field is sting or Columbia lance nematodes). d) if not planting a resistant variety and the grower has a nematode problem, it will be a tremendous mistake to miss the chance to use a nematicide, or to use a nematicide that won't get the job done. Fumigation with Telone II (3 gal/A) is our most aggressive and effective solution when a nematicide is used, but it is also most expensive and most complicated. If not fumigation, growers can use AgLogic 15G (a granular product at 5-7 lb/A) or Velum (a liquid product at 6.5-6.8 fl oz/A). Growers can use seed treatment nematicides, but there are most appropriate for lower populations of nematodes. Growers can SUPPLEMENT but NOT REPLACE earlier nematicide applications with Vydate CLV applied at about the 5<sup>th</sup> true leaf stage.
3. Peanut growers can follow (should follow) similar advice as above when Peanut Root-Knot nematodes are a threat. a) Growers can plant Georgia-14N or TifNV-HiOL, both of which have resistance. b) They can use Telone II (4.5-6 gal/A) of AgLogic 15G (7 lb/A) or Velum (6.8 fl oz/A). Vydate CLV is also labeled and available for use in-furrow for peanuts. We at UGA continue to evaluate Vydate for management of nematodes and thrips.
4. **Peanuts and in-furrow fungicides.**
  - a. most peanut growers will be using **Rancona** or **Trebuset** as seed treatments this year, both of which will be better than Dynasty PD for management of Aspergillus crown rot.
  - b. Conditions today for our peanut growers COULD indicate "hotter and drier" at planting. Planting peanut seeds into "hotter and drier" soils increases risk to Aspergillus crown rot, especially (but not always) when farmer-saved seed is planted. Also, a "heads up" to growers- Hotter and Drier at planting increases risk to Aspergillus Crown Rot. HOTTER early in the season increases risk to growers for WHITE MOLD (southern stem rot, Dr. Dufault...) as well. Be prepared.
  - c. Growers who have used **Velum** for nematode control will ALSO get additional benefit for control of Aspergillus crown rot. (NOTE: Because of cost and other options, I would not use Velum if I was not first-and-foremost trying to control nematodes. Additional management of crown rot is simply a "bonus".)
  - d. **Azoxystrobin** (e.g., Abound) in-furrow adds benefit in fighting Rhizoctonia seedling disease (if such is needed) and offers some, but not much extra benefit for Aspergillus control. Coupled with a seed treatment, azoxystrobin in-furrow may not be great (if won't be) for control of Aspergillus control, but it may be enough.
  - e. **Proline in-furrow is MOST appropriate for management of Cylindrocladium black rot (CBR) and, to a lesser extent, for early-season white mold control. A banded, concentrated application of Proline 21-35 days after planting would be a better strategy for early-season white mold control. I wouldn't use Proline simply for extra Aspergillus control.**

#### Obtaining a Georgia Pesticide License

Several have come to the office to go through the training to receive their pesticide license. Any who will be applying dicamba products must pass and possess their own private pesticide license. You can go through the training at home (information is available on our webpage), or you can call our office and we will help you get set up to take the training at our office.

#### Using Pesticides Wisely (UPW) Training – GA 2022 and GA Pesticide License Training

Do you need an hour of pesticide credit or you missed the previous opportunities to receive UPW credit, then your next option is to come to the office and you can go through the training here. Please call ahead so we will have everything ready to go. To apply Engenia, Tavium, and XtendiMax in 2022 you must have to attend the UPW Training. **ALL applicators of Engenia, Tavium, & XtendiMax herbicides must have a private pesticide license. ALL applicators driving a tractor/sprayer applying these herbicides must attend a UPW Training during 2022 prior to using these products.**

#### EPA Required Training for Paraquat Applicators

We have recently had some follow up questions regarding the EPA Paraquat training module. This training is required for those applying paraquat. It must be retaken every 3 years, and some applicators may be nearing the 3 year deadline. The information and training can be found at the following website: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/paraquat-dichloride-training-certified-applicators>. The site will answer frequently asked questions, also, but if you need more information contact your local county Extension agent.

## Irwin County Rabies Clinic

**It's time to get your animal's Rabies vaccination**

The Irwin Co Rabies Clinic is coming to Ocilla  
Rabies vaccinations will be administered at



**IRWIN ANIMAL CLINIC**  
  
Ocilla, GA  
Irwin Animal Clinic  
367 Sly Hill Rd, Ocilla  
**Saturday, May 7th, 8 am—12 pm**

The vaccination fee will be reduced to \$10 for cats/dogs and \$15 for horses the week of May 2nd-7th, 2022.



For the safety of your pet,  
bring on a leash or  
in a pet carrier.



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**Proud Sponsors**  
Irwin Animal Clinic 229-468-7343  
Irwin Co Extension/4-H Office 229-468-7409

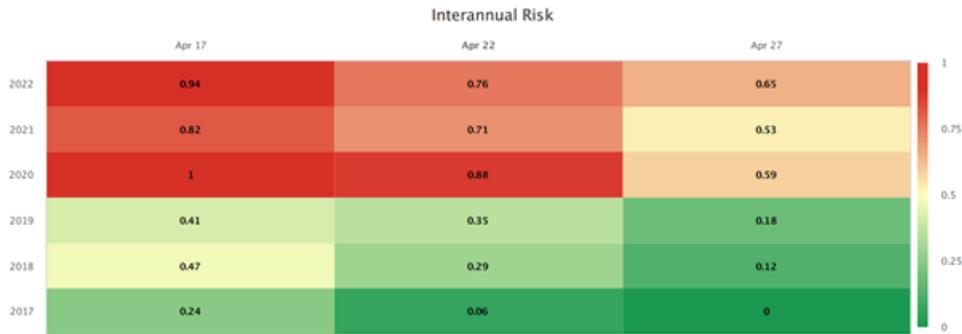
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## Cotton Thrips Management: Use an At-Plant Insecticide Roberts

Thrips are consistent pests of cotton, infesting nearly all cotton acres planted in Georgia each year. Thrips are the only insect pest of cotton that a preventive insecticide is recommended. We consistently observe a positive yield response to at-plant insecticides used for thrips control. A reactive approach based on scouting and use of thresholds is recommended for less consistent insect pests such as stink bugs, corn earworms, whiteflies and others to maximize profitability. With most insect pests there are agronomic and management practices which influence the risk and severity of infestations. Below are a few thoughts to consider as you make decisions for your at-plant thrips management program.

1. Use a preventive insecticide at planting. Thrips will infest near 100 percent of cotton planted in Georgia. We consistently observe positive yield responses in UGA research and on the farm when an at-plant insecticide is used for thrips control. It is not feasible to control thrips with foliar sprays alone; multiple foliar sprays applied in a very timely manner would be required.
2. At-plant insecticide options include infurrow granule applications of aldicarb, infurrow liquid applications of imidacloprid or acephate, and commercial seed treatments of imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, and acephate. Infurrow applications of aldicarb, imidacloprid, and acephate tend to provide greater control and longer residual control compared to seed treatments.
3. Thrips infestations are generally higher on early planted cotton compared with later planted cotton. High risk planting dates for thrips injury is a moving target from year to year. The **Thrips Infestation Predictor for Cotton** (<http://climate.ncsu.edu/CottonTIP>) is a web-based tool which predicts thrips risk by location and planting date. This tool was developed by researchers at North Carolina State University and has been verified using thrips data from Georgia. The website has information about the tool and also includes a link to a presentation describing the tool and how it can be used in the "About" tab. If the risk is high for thrips on a given planting date, consider using a more active at-plant insecticide or be prepared to scout and potentially make a timely foliar spray if a seed treatment is used.

Below are the results from the predictor model for the Moultrie, GA area on April 22, 2022.



4. Thrips infestations are significantly lower in reduced tillage production systems compared with conventional tillage. In general, the more cover or residue on the soil surface the greater the reduction in thrips.
5. Cotton seedlings are most sensitive to yield loss from thrips feeding during early stages of development. Excessive thrips feeding and plant injury on 1-2 leaf cotton has a greater yield penalty than cotton infested at the 3-4 leaf stage. Once cotton reaches the 4-leaf stage and is growing rapidly, thrips are rarely an economic pest.
6. Slow growing seedlings are more susceptible to thrips than rapidly growing seedlings. If cotton is slow growing due to herbicide injury, cool temperatures, or other stresses, be sure to scout for thrips and thrips injury. Thrips feed in the terminal bud on unfurled leaves so more feeding occurs on each unfurled leaf if the plant is growing slowly.
7. Scout for thrips and injury early. The threshold for thrips is 2-3 thrips per plant with immatures present. The presence of immature thrips suggests the at-plant insecticide is not providing control (i.e. thrips eggs were laid on the plant, eggs hatched, and immature thrips are surviving). Immature thrips are crème colored and lack wings whereas adults will typically be brown with wings.

#### Important Links and Information

- You can call our office to order 2022 GA Pest Management Handbooks
- Cotton Production Guides, Corn/Peanut/Soybean Weed Control, Peanut Quick Reference Guides available at our office
- UGA Peanut Production Guide, 2022 Peanut Pest Management, 2022 Disease Risk Assessment Worksheet, Peanut Agronomic Quick Reference, Peanut Scout Handbook, 2022 Peanut Budgets <https://peanuts.caes.uga.edu/>
- 2022 UGA Corn Production Guide (NEW) <https://grains.caes.uga.edu/content/dam/caes-subsite/grains/docs/corn/2022-Corn-Production-Guide.pdf>
- See link for 2022 crop budget information - <https://agecon.uga.edu/extension/budgets.html>
- UGA Statewide Variety Trial Link <https://swvt.uga.edu/>
- UGA Irwin County Extension Webpage <https://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/irwin.html>
- Irwin County Extension Agriculture Newsletters – you can find all of our past newsletters by clicking on the link below. <https://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/irwin/agriculture-and-natural-resources/newsletters.html>
- Check your Georgia Private and Commercial Pesticide License credits here <https://agr.georgia.gov/pesticides.aspx>
- Georgia Forages YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL6DgfaB8V2DRnGxzEBxU3w>
- Search find and like us on Facebook UGA Extension – Irwin County and also Irwin County 4-H Club

*As always for more information contact your Irwin County Extension Office.*

*Thank You, God Bless You,  
Phillip Edwards - Irwin County Agent*



*The mention of trade names in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the Georgia Extension Service, nor criticism of similar ones not mentioned.*

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The University of Georgia and Fort Valley State University, the U. S. Department of Agriculture and counties of the state cooperating, The Cooperative Extension Service offers educational programs, assistance and materials to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation or protected veteran status." An equal opportunity/affirmative action organization committed to a diverse work force.*