

AgFax

Southeast Cotton

Where your crop comes first.

Owen Taylor, Editor
owen@agfax.com ■ 888-327-6329

MAY 5, 2006

Here is this week's *AgFax: Southeast Cotton*, sponsored by **FMC Corporation**, maker of **Carbine** insecticide. To subscribe to *AgFax* or *PeanutFax*, please go to our subscription page at agfax.com/subs.

OVERVIEW

Planting progress stalled this week in some areas due to rain – either too much of it or not enough. North Alabama has been receiving one rain after another, and the last 10% of its crop remains to be planted. Along the southern portions of the Southeast, growers have been dusting in seed or holding off on additional planting until more rain develops.

Lines of thunderstorms moved through central Alabama and central Mississippi earlier in the day. As we closed this issue Friday night, showers had shifted into eastern Georgia

and parts of North and South Carolina. More rain is in the forecast throughout much of the Southeast this weekend.

Jack S. Bachelier, North Carolina Extension Entomologist, cautioned today about thrips. "Although thrips levels so far have not been as high as some previous years here, the recent cool weather has resulted in slow 'grow-off' conditions," Bachelier reported in Friday's *North Carolina Pest News*. "This results in cotton seedlings that may be vulnerable to thrips for a longer period, as was the case in 2005... With any luck, cotton planted during the next week will emerge and grow off faster than our April planted cotton, resulting in a narrower thrips susceptibility window."

For Bachelier's full report, go to our home page, agfax.com, and scroll down to the **North Carolina** heading in the middle column.

CROP REPORTS

Charlie Burmester, Extension Cotton Agronomist, Belle Mina, Ala.: "With all the rain we've had in the last two weeks, there haven't been many days to make over-the-top herbicide applications and finish planting. About 10% of the crop hasn't been planted yet. It would be good to have a few open days to catch up. We're seeing a little thrips damage on cotton, which is earlier than normal. A little ascochyta blight is showing up where cotton was conventionally tilled and dirt splashed onto cotyledons. It's not to the point yet that it will kill the plants, but we sunshine right now certainly help. As it is, we've been getting rain about every

(Next Page)

Introducing the new way to maximize your cotton yield.

Carbine™ insecticide from **FMC** has a unique mode of action that effectively controls plant bugs and aphids and is soft on beneficial insects. With this unique mode of action, you begin to see pests stop feeding with 30 minutes of exposure. Once feeding stops, damage stops, the pests starve to death. The reduction in feeding damage leads to greater square retention and up to 28 pounds per acre higher yields compared to standard treatments. **Carbine** is a key component of Insect Resistance Management programs and considered the perfect partner in Integrated Pest Management programs. For more information, contact your **FMC Star Retailer**.



FMC

FMC Corporation

Agricultural Products Group
1735 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

1-888-59-FMC-AG • cropsolutions.fmc.com

Always read and follow label directions. **FMC** is a trademark of **FMC Corporation**. **Carbine** is a trademark of **Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd.** © 2006 **FMC Corporation**. All rights reserved. **FMC-1172-02 04/06**

two days.”

Joel Faircloth, Virginia Extension Agronomist: “We’re supposed to get some rain tonight (Friday). Folks are planting cotton as fast as they can, and maybe planting some peanuts, too. I think we’ll be 85% planted by the weekend. It’s a little later than last year but still early compared to normal. We need this rain because winter rains have not been adequate. We’re still five to six inches down in most areas. We’ve had good rains for planting, but not enough to build any kind of reserve. Many areas are getting dry again. The forecast calls for rain tonight and all day Saturday. I just hope it’s not a hard, packing rain.”

William Birdsong, Extension Agronomist-Row Crops, Headland, Ala.: “We absolutely need rain, and maybe we’ll get it this weekend. There’s a 60% to 70% into Saturday and Sunday. Some cotton has emerged and is off to a good stand, but we’ve also got cotton that was planted dry and needs rain to come up. We also know that at least some replanting is underway. At this point we’re hoping that this won’t be a packing rain. A good, slow half-inch to one-inch rain would be helpful right now. We’ve got 50% to 60% of the crop planted, which is probably a week behind where we would be if moisture had been adequate. We’ve got cases where cotton emerged and then died off, but we don’t really know why yet. Growers who caught hard rains a week ago in isolated spots are running rotary hoes now.”

David L. Wright, Florida Extension Agronomist, Quincy, Fla.: “It’s still dry. Our last good, general rain was sometime toward the end of February. In March and April the total in this area was 1.25 inches. Some places around here got more than that, but you also can find locations that maybe received less. Essentially, people have been dust-

ing in cotton in some cases. And growers who were tilling have pretty much stopped until it rains. Most of our peanut planting will start next Thursday, but we’re only about 50% finished planting cotton, so a lot of growers are going to be really pushed.”

Keith Edmisten, North Carolina Extension Cotton Specialist: “We’re 15% to 20% planted. Cool temperatures have been a factor. It also was really dry until recently, then it started raining, and that stopped things for a while. People are planting now.”

Phillip Jost, Extension Cotton Agronomist, Statesboro, Ga.: “A lot of cotton has gone in the ground in the last week, but it’s getting really dry in this part of Georgia. It’s supposed to rain this weekend, and we need it.”

TRAP REPORT

**Wiregrass REC, Headland, Ala., Pheromone Trap Report
Ron Weeks, Extension Entomologist**

As of May 4: Average number of moths per night

CEW	TBW	FAW	BAW	LCSB
7.14	0.57	0.57	0.28	4.28

CEW: corn earworm, TBW: tobacco budworm, FAW: fall armyworm, BAW: beet armyworm, LCSB: lesser cornstalk borer.

AgFax: Southeast Cotton is published weekly during the cotton season by Looking South Communications, Owen Taylor, Editor and Publisher. Subscriptions are free to qualified growers, consultants, dealers, industry personnel and Extension and University professionals in the United States of America. *AgFax: Midsouth Cotton* is distributed by fax and email Phone: 601-992-9488 (Fax: 601-992-3503). Contact email: owen@agfax.com. Copyright 2006, Looking South Communications.