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Impacts of Grazing Small Grain on a following Cotton Crop

With higher nitrate N in the soil where cattle graze small grain, we found that nitrates were higher in the cotton plant throughout the season and were higher than recommended in the vegetative stage, indicating that the residual and applied N may have been too high with a potential for leaching. However, cotton yields were higher in 2008 where cattle had grazed small grain as

compared to similarly treated plots that were not grazed, as noted in the figure below.

We need additional years of research to determine how much commercial N can be reduced on cotton where cattle have been grazed. This would be dependent on cattle number and size, soil type, soil moisture, how much N had been applied to small grain and other

factors. Nitrogen can be reduced with recycling and probably by a third to one half without yield loss. Having a legume in the winter grazing could reduce that even further.

*Submitted by the Extension Agronomists in the North Florida REC, Quincy:
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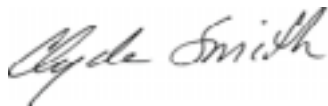
March 2010

Upcoming Events

March 4
 Peanut Short Course

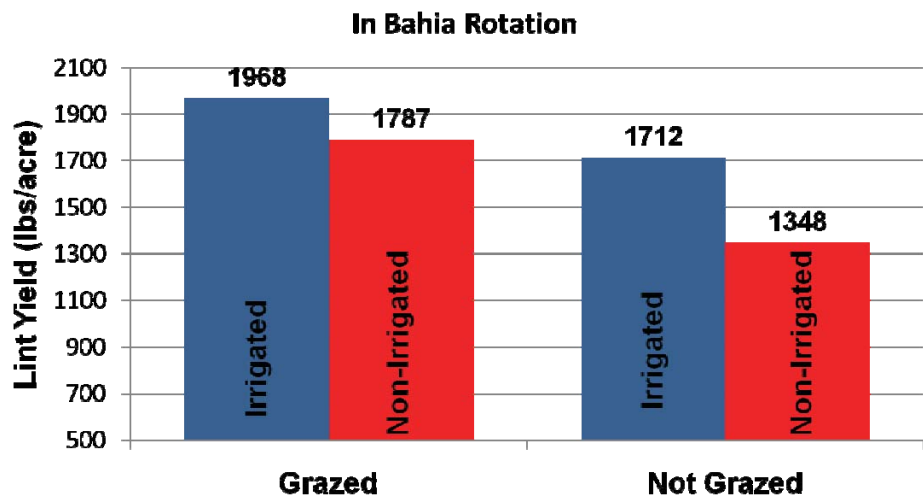
March 25
 NFREC Beef & Forage Field Day (Marianna)

March 30
 IFAS CEU Day



Clyde A. Smith
 Regional IPM Agent

Cotton Yield Response to Irrigation and Grazing (2008 Marianna)



Foliar Fungicides for Cotton

I have had several questions about the utility of foliar fungicides in cotton production. The cooler, wet fall weather in 2008 and 2009 drew attention to the late-season leaf disease in much of our cotton. My own field demonstrations indicate

drastic visual differences in late-season leaf disease and defoliation with applications of

Part of the problem is determining which pathogen is causing the problem.

Headline®. I did not see a measurable difference in cotton yield in large-block demonstrations.

Dr. David Wright, UF/IFAS Extension Agronomist, has demonstrated a yield increase when using fungicides to reduce hard-lock in cotton. Dr. Bob Kemerait, University of Georgia Extension Pathologist, has evaluated foliar fungicide applications for several years. He has not been able to show a consistent profitable yield increase in many of his small-plot trials. He has noted a trend toward higher yields, even if they are not statistically significant.

Part of the problem is determining which pathogen is causing the problem. Aschochyta, fusarium, cercospora, stemphyllium are a few of the fungal problems cropping up

over the last several years. We may be able to control one or more of these fungus, only to have another colonize the plant later. This makes it difficult to evaluate yield effects with fungicides.

We do know that foliar fungicides reduce leaf disease and perhaps boll disease in cotton. We do not know if disease reduction translates into yield increase and profitability to the farmer. Hopefully, we will know more after the 2010 growing season.

If you have questions about foliar fungicides in cotton please contact Clyde Smith at clydeipm@ufl.edu or 850-482-9620.

Submitted by Clyde Smith, Regional IPM Agent, Jackson County Extension



Cercospora—symptoms on cotton leaf



Aschochyta — damage to cotton seedling (photo courtesy of Clemson University)



Fusarium Wilt—cross section of cotton

Sample Nematodes Now

Nematode management requires sampling to determine populations. The **best time** to sample is **soon after crop harvest** since populations are at their peak.

If you missed taking nematode samples this past fall, take samples now for the 2010 season.

Be sure to pull soil samples randomly but in pattern that represents the entire field. If you know you have problem areas, break the field into

sub-samples and label accordingly.

Soil samples should be taken up to about 12 inches deep to find nematodes in cooler weather. If you wait for warmer weather, many nematodes will die as the weather warms and they have little food. This gives an inaccurate count since nematode populations surge after planting when host plants are readily available.

Nematode sampling kits are available at your County Extension Office.

Submitted by Clyde Smith, Regional IPM Agronomy Agent

Tips to Remember when taking Nematode Samples

- ▶ *Take a random sampling across each field.*
- ▶ *The soil should be moist and kept moist (not saturated).*
- ▶ *Sample at least 12" deep.*
- ▶ *Keep samples moist and send them in promptly.*

2010 Cotton Production Meeting

All times CST

Friday, February 12, 2010

*Jackson County Extension Conference Center
2741 Pennsylvania Avenue, Marianna, Florida 32448*

7:45 – 8:30 AM	Registration and Welcome
8:30 – 9:00	Choosing Cotton Varieties Mike Donahoe, Santa Rosa County Extension Director, UF/IFAS Extension
9:00 – 9:30	Weed Problems in Cotton Dr. Jay Ferrell, UF/IFAS Extension Weed Specialist
9:30 – 10:00	Reducing Boll Diseases of Cotton with a Sod Based-Rotation Dr. David Wright, UF/IFAS Extension Agronomist
10:00 – 10:15	Break
10:15 – 10:45	Using Growth Regulators on the New Cotton Varieties Dr. Dale Monks, Auburn Extension Specialist
10:45 – 11:15	IPM and Its Effect on Cotton Inputs Clyde Smith, Regional IPM Agent, UF/IFAS Extension
11:15 – 12:15	Label Updates From Industry
12:15 PM	Lunch (Provided)

Those persons with special needs should contact the Jackson County Extension Office, by telephoning 850-482-9620, at least 5 business days prior to the event in order to allow proper consideration of the request.

Jackson County Extension Events Calendar for February 2010

February 3rd

NW Florida Beef Conference Jackson County Ag Conference Center, 2741 Pennsylvania Ave, Marianna; 8 AM - 1 PM

February 8th

Grape Pruning Workshop FAMU Viticulture Center, Hwy 90, Tallahassee; 10 AM - noon EST

February 9th

Master Gardeners Board & Monthly Meeting Jackson County Extension Auditorium "B", 2741 Pennsylvania Ave, Marianna; 8 AM - 2 PM

February 10, 17 & 24

Master Gardener Class Jackson County Extension Office, Auditorium B, 2741 Pennsylvania Ave, Marianna; times vary [See schedule on web site](#)

February 12th

Cotton Production Meeting Jackson County Ag Conference Center, 2741 Pennsylvania Ave, Marianna; 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM

February 16th

Fed Cattle Show & Sale Jackson County Ag Center, Hwy 90, west of Marianna (Fair Grounds). Great opportunity to stock your freezer with great beef while supporting the youth of our county!

February 18th

Private Applicator Pesticide Training & Exam Gadsden County Extension, 2140 West Jefferson St (Hwy 90), Quincy, FL; 7:30 AM - 2:15 PM CST; Exam given at 2:30 PM CST; Cost is \$3 for the morning session, \$3 for the afternoon session, or \$6 all day; pre-register by February 15th; call 850-482-9620 (Jackson County Ext) or 850-875-7255 (Gadsden County Ext) for more information.

February 22nd

Housing Class Jackson County Extension Auditorium "B", 2741 Pennsylvania Ave, Marianna; 5:30 - 8:30 PM

Visit our web site at <http://jackson.ifas.ufl.edu>
monthly for more events