HOT, DRY, and WINDY, that just about sums it up. So far, the maximum daily temperature for June has averaged 98°F and the minimum daily temperature is averaging 72°F. The weather station at Wastella (seven miles NW of Roscoe) has only recorded 0.23 inches of rainfall this month. And, this was from the thunderstorms this week. Fortunately, some areas have received up to 2.0 inch of rain, but it has not been enough for our entire area. Based on previous weather data, our conditions are as bad as any year from 1999 until now. I hope by the time you receive this newsletter you will have gotten a good rain.

Cotton growth stages range from the 5 to 6 true leaf to seeds setting in the ground waiting for some moisture to germinate. There may be some early planted cotton that will be start setting squares next week. These climatic conditions have been brutal on getting a plant stand and to the growth of seedling cotton. The winds have been whipping and sand blasting the small plants. The injury will often cause leaves to curl and be scared which may be confused with Thrips damage. Scouts are reporting low thrips numbers (range of less than 1 to 3 thrips per plant) in our scout fields. Typically, numbers are averaging less than 1 thrips per leaf, which is the threshold for treating. However, I know of a field having both adult and immature thrips at densities causing sufficient damage to warrant treatment. So, continue scouting fields as thrips may further cause damage. Suggest insecticides for control are Orthene 90 S @ 1.5-3.0 oz./acre, Bidrin 8E @ 1 gal./40-60 acres, and dimethoate 4E @ 4-8 ozs./acre.
LOWER ROLLING PLAINS NEWSLETTER

The 2008 edition of the newsletter will be written weekly from this newsletter through September and as needed the rest of the year. The newsletter provides information about insects, weeds, diseases, and crop management suggestions for cotton and other major crops in Jones, Mitchell, Nolan, and Scurry counties. The newsletter is available for free if sent by e-mail, but due to increasing postage rates the newsletter by mail will cost $10.00 per year. Newsletters are, also, available at web sites for the Lower Rolling Plains IPM (http://lrpipm.tamu.edu), Texas Pest Management Association (http://www.tpma.org), and the Nolan County Extension office (http://nolan-co.tamu.edu). Please complete the following subscription form and return to Ed Bynum, 100 E. Third St., Ste 305, Sweetwater, TX 79556.

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