

Cotton ICM/IPM Meeting  
Maricopa Ag Center  
May 12, 2008  
10:00 am

Erin Taylor, Pedro Andrade-Meeting Chairs  
Bill McCloskey, Al Fournier, Sam Wang, Russ Tronstad, Randy Norton, Bob Roth, Peter Ellsworth, Kevin Rice, Steve Narranjo, Paul Brown, Eric Norton

10:10: meeting called to order and introductions around the table

Pedro: Gave a power point presentation on his current and future work

Provided an update of program, what is planning over the next year. Introduced his new research specialist that he hired, John Hunt, in Feb of 2008. John is an electronics engineer with training in machinery. Pedro is working towards starting a new working group for Precision Ag. Areas of interest include: Cotton yield monitoring, mapping of yields, veris sensor, soil compaction, auto guidance system

Sam: gave a power point presentation with back ground on himself and current and future work.

Cropping systems overview, Drought/heat resistance crops, crop rotation, alternative crops, crop growth modeling.

Current research:

- MCP on cotton drought resistance with syngenta
- Simulated Hail Damage
- Cowpea Forage, summer
- Native Grasses, revegetative purposes
- Rotational cool season crops with cotton

Randy: SE cotton acreage is the same. Has had a spotty spring with cool weather. DP 455 had trouble at the 1-2 leaf stage. Last years crop was good with an average of 1200 lbs. Has some Pima cotton on the station in Safford. About 4000 acres of non-BT cotton has been planted across the state this year. Saw a reduction in labor in Safford with the new cotton/module builder pickers. Water restrictions a concern in Safford! They have been restricted to 6 acre feet. 2009 they will be under flow meter monitoring for both surface and ground water. Randy brought Books from the National Cotton Council to hand out. Randy has his Telone project again this year in Casa Grande.

Peter: Working on his Lygus project in Pinal County. Sampling of white fly and Lygus this year. Peter has had to receive a permit from the Gila River Reservation for all people/vehicles that will be traveling on farm or reservation roads. (must have a permit for tribal land and one for allotted land) Peter has 9 people on his crew this year. Guayule is looking to be a weak link for Lygus. Peter is looking for growers to set up Lygus demos this year. Flea beetle has been more of a problem this year than in years past. Peter expects that insect pressure this year will be heavier than in the last couple of

years. Bollgard 2 is going to be the only gene available for 2009. Refuge requirements may change for AZ.

Kevin: Leaving in August.

Steve: Working on the RAMP project with Peter. Peter and Steve are counting all bugs this year.

Paul: Advisory Program is up and running. New reporting system is being installed on stations so some stations have been spotty. Working on the systems so they have real time mode for the advisories. 2009 will be real time for all stations. This year has been very dry. Humidity is at 2%. We have been experiencing cool nights. There will be a new heat stress bulletin out soon. The fall is tending to be warmer. Insect pressures are starting to be seen later in summer. Monsoons are now a thing of the past. It is now the summer thunderstorm season and runs from June 15 to September 15. Dew points are important and need to be watched for Ag purposes.

Bill: The RR Flex is good. More preplant herbicides are being used. Bill is working on Precision Cultivation with Pedro. A new stack is being worked on Liberty Link, Round up Ready, and Dicamba.

Erin: Down on variety trial locations this year. No locations in Mohave/La Paz counties, only 1 location in Yuma, none in Marana, and 3 in Central AZ. Had a hard time getting seed with the transfer of companies. Acreage is down a little, but holding. Have had germination Problems with DP 164. Working on putting together a newsletter. Trials this year will include some defoliation.

Eric: Down to 5000 acres on the river. The tribe has bought the gin in Mohave county. 4-5 thousand acres of wheat this year. The tribe has about 3000 acres of guayule. 500 acres in Vicksburg Junction, and about 200 acres of cotton in Vicksburg Junction. 3-4 bale cotton in Mohave Valley in 2007.

Kurt: Unable to attend.

Funds: \$664.00 for cotton reports, AI used about \$83.00 for Travel

Preseason Meetings: AI conducted surveys at the cotton meetings. Wants to continue this in with the last season meetings.

Cross-Commodity working group: Looking to try to get the PCA advisory group back together.

AZPMC: Working groups are listed on the main page and can go to the cotton team working group from there.

PCA Manual: Partial Draft is done. We need to get rest in. Goal is for July 2008. June 6, deadline for all drafts. Robert McArthur will bill us for Maria's hours and will use some working group funds for this.

Cotton report: not many articles have been turned in. Go to an every other year format??

Program Planning: All programs should have Russ on them for the Farm Bill. Other topics include water use, fertilizer, late season insect escapes, economics

Meetings:

Randy: July 2 mainly insects, working on an irrigation field day fall meeting Oct 8<sup>th</sup>.

Erin: working on a meeting for late September.

Eric: Late season in Aug-Sept.

Erin and Pedro are working on a safety meeting

Sam Wang will be taking over as the state coordinator for the working group. (Thanks Sam!!)

Next meeting will be on September 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. Location is at MAC.

Chairs are Sam Wang and Eric Norton.