

TIMS ratifies 2006-07 insecticide resistance management strategy

By Greg Kauter, ACGRA and Louise Rossiter, NSW DPI

The Transgenic and Insecticide Resistance Management Strategy Committee (TIMS), convened by ACGRA, ratified the 2006-07 Insecticide Resistance Management Strategy (IRMS) and approved variations to Bollgard II planting window dates for two cotton growing regions at its recent meeting in Goondiwindi.

TIMS chairman Andrew Parkes said there was a need to finalise the 2006-07 IRMS to ensure timely publication of strategy information and communication to industry. The TIMS committee underwent a review by ACGRA earlier in 2006 and part of that process was the development of a timely plan for the presentation of resistance monitoring data from the previous season, and wide consultation with growers, consultants and technology providers on options for refining the strategy for the coming season.

The TIMS ratification meeting agenda addressed the following important resistance management topics.

COTTON INSECTICIDE RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2006-07

A draft version of the 2006-07 IRMS was developed by TIMS in May and sent to all Cotton Grower Associations (CGAs) and other industry stakeholders for feedback. A number of CGAs and companies made submissions to the committee on their proposed regional strategy. Dr Louise Rossiter presented a revised version of the draft IRMS based on the industry feedback.

KEY CHANGES FOR THE 2006-07 IRMS

Central and Southern areas

- The Macintyre CGA request to move the pyrethroid use start date back to January 1 was acknowledged and would be indicated by exception for the Macintyre in the Central area strategy. It was agreed that the commencement of the pyrethroid window for all other Central and Southern areas remain as December 15 to accommodate the requests for earlier use on *Helicoverpa punctigera* that have been received by



Steve Madden, Lewis Wilson and Andrew Parkes at the recent TIMS meeting.

the Troubleshooting Committee in recent years.

- The Tracer window has been extended and will commence on December 1 and finish on February 15.
- The Steward window will commence on December 15 and extend until the end of the season.
- A consideration for the 2007-08 IRMS development was that the Macintyre and Balonne region' IRMS considerations may allow them to fit better with the Darling Downs to allow consideration of a Southern Queensland regional IRMS.

Darling Downs

- It was decided that the pyrethroid use commencement date should be January 15, as requested by the Darling Downs Cotton Growers Inc. for improved IPM, especially due to the risk of exacerbating the silverleaf whitefly problem in the region.

Central Queensland

- The Steward end use date is extended from January 15 to February 1.
- Tracer window goes to end of season, last season it finished February 15.

BOLLGARD II PLANTING WINDOW VARIATIONS

The APVMA has allowed a modification of the Bollgard II Resistance Management Plan (RMP) that enables the industry through the TIMS Committee to consider and approve variations to the Bollgard II planting windows in the current season's RMP.

Requests for variation to 2006-07 Bollgard II planting windows were considered from:

Dawson Valley Cotton Growers Association Inc.

- The Dawson/Callide growers based at Theodore requested the variation of the Bollgard II planting window for 2006-07 to September 25-November 5. The commencement date in the 2006-07 RMP is September 15. The request was approved based on the agreement of the Theodore growers to comply with the new dates.

Darling Downs Cotton Growers Inc

- The Darling Downs Cotton Growers requested a variation to the Bollgard II

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RMP planting window which currently ceases on November 15. The request to commence planting on October 15 creates a 42 day window which will close on November 26. The request was approved based on the agreement of the Downs growers to comply with the new dates.

BOLLGARD II RMP AND ROUNDUP READY CMP COMPLIANCE AUDITS

Stewart Addison, Craig Dunn and David Penna from Monsanto made a presentation to the TIMS committee on the level of compliance to the Bollgard II RMP and Roundup Ready Crop Management Plan (CMP).

The new mid-season audit of refuge crops revealed the industry had a slight excess of refuge area last season, although a very small number of growers were found to have underestimated their refuge requirements and were non-compliant with the Bollgard II RMP. Monsanto will be conducting the refuge audit earlier than mid-February this coming season.

Monsanto also reported to TIMS that there will be additional data collection during the Roundup Ready post application

weed audit next season. Weed inspections sites will require GPS coordinates and inspection sites will be auditable.

HERBICIDE TOLERANT CROPS TECHNICAL PANEL UPDATE

Andrew Parkes made some comments on behalf of the Herbicide Tolerant Crops Technical Panel which has been assisting technology providers to develop resistance management plans for new products and technologies that are acceptable to industry:

- Roundup Ready Flex Crop Management Plan CMP (Monsanto) supported by TIMS has been submitted and is awaiting registration by APVMA.
- Liberty Link Cotton and Liberty 150 Herbicide CMP (Bayer) is under continued development and expected to be reviewed in detail by the Herbicide Tolerant Crops Technical Panel in the next couple of months.
- Cotton-on 450 Herbicide CMP (Runge Agrichems) is registered by APVMA for use on 'glyphosate tolerant cotton' and is being refined for next season.

SILVER LEAF WHITEFLY

The TIMS Committee also had an update on silverleaf whitefly (SLW) research from Dr Lewis Wilson from the Whitefly

and Sucking Pest Workshop (Toowoomba June 20-21). Lewis outlined the Whitefly IRMS would involve the insect growth regulators (IGRs) and Pegasus and would relate to refining sampling and threshold guidelines developed in Central Queensland. These guidelines will be promoted in pre-season workshops in Central Queensland and on the Darling Downs.

Lewis also provided a moderately concerning summary on the risk of the transmission of a range of Gemini viruses that SLW are capable of vectoring.

Further details on the Whitefly and Sucking Pest Workshop are available from Dr Richard Sequeira, QDPI&F, Emerald.

STRATEGY COMMUNICATION AND TROUBLESHOOTING

The strategy will be available on the Cotton CRC (www.cotton.crc.org.au) and ACGRA (www.acgra.net.au) web sites and included in the 2006-07 Cotton Pest management Guide that will be mailed to growers at the start of the season.

Cotton Grower Associations are reminded that TIMS can deal with proposals to vary the IRMS during the season on a case by case basis. CGAs can make requests to the TIMS Troubleshooting Committee by contacting Greg Kauter, Executive Officer ACGRA, greg.kauter@acgra.net.au or 0429 700711.

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