

# Boll Weevil Bulletin



An Eradication Information Resource

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## NRP program declared functionally eradicated, debt paid off early

The commissioner of agriculture at the request of the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation's board of directors has declared the Northern Rolling Plains (NRP) "functionally eradicated." This declaration comes after an announcement from the Foundation's board of directors that the zone has also paid off

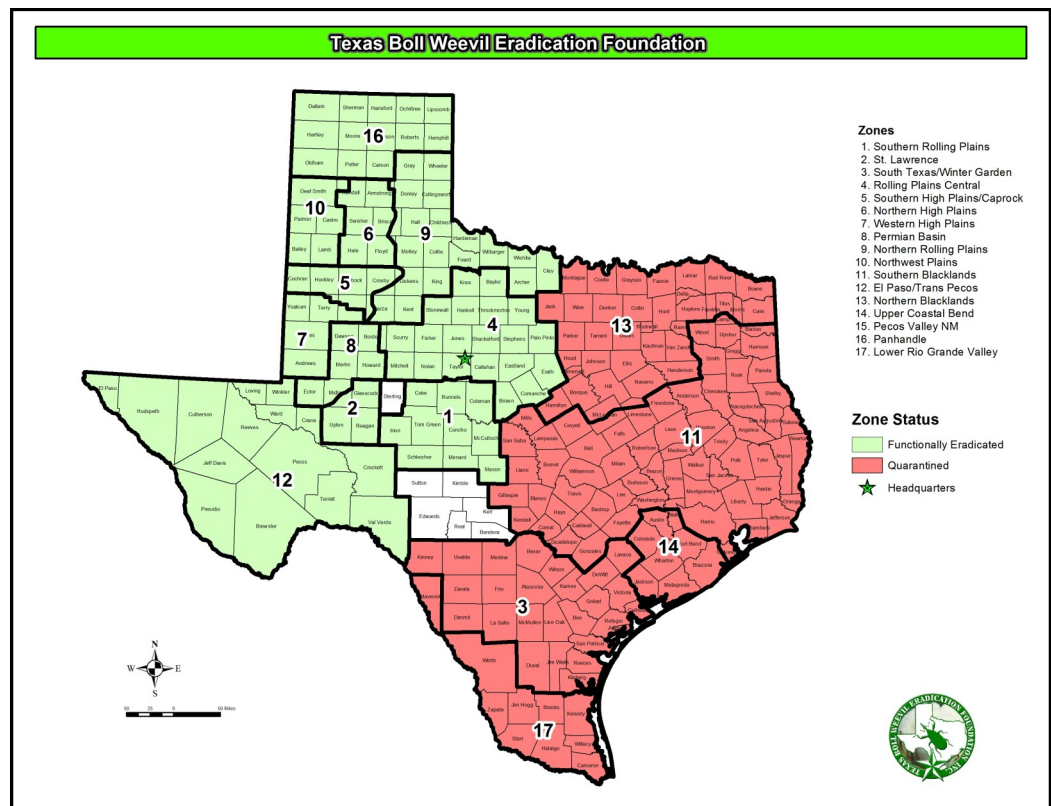
their debt ahead of schedule.

Functionally eradicated, by definition, means that less than 0.001 weevils per trap/per week have been found during the most recently completed cotton growing season. In simple terms this declaration of functional eradication means boll weevils are not reproducing nor causing

economic damage in the zone.

"This milestone for the boll weevil eradication effort in Texas would not be possible without the investment from the Texas Legislature, the federal government and our state's cotton producers," said Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples.

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## **NRP declared functionally eradicated ...**

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“These groups, through their cooperative efforts, have ensured that Texas remains the number one cotton producing state in the United States.”

As a result of the early payoff and a request by the zone’s grower steering committee, the 2010 boll weevil eradication program assessment for the NRP zone was reduced from \$10.00 per dry row acre and \$15.00 per irrigated row acre, to \$3.00 and \$5.00 respectively.

“The program has been executed in an extremely efficient manner,” said John Inman, NRP producer representative to the

Foundation’s board of directors. “Our producers’ commitment to the program coupled with the hard work of Foundation personnel has rid this area of the weevil and made growing cotton here more profitable. Now, with the incurred program debt paid in full and enough reserves to allow us to continue monitoring for and protecting against possible outbreaks, the board and the commissioner agree with the recommendation of the grower steering committee that the reduced assessment is warrant-

ed,” said Inman.

Producers in the zone have seen a 100 percent reduction in boll weevils since the first full year of eradication when over 3 million weevils were caught in the zone. Not to mention the incredible crop yields they’ve been blessed with now that they are weevil-free. This year no weevils have been captured and no fields have received treatment.

The NRP is one of nine Texas zones that were declared functionally eradicated

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- Commissioner Todd Staples*

## **Just in case you forgot ...**



earlier this month. In all, the nine zones planted more than 3.8 million acres of cotton in 2010. This status change for the nine zones brings the total number of functionally eradicated zones to 11 of 16, and establishes 89 percent of Texas’ cotton acreage as weevil-free.



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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**