



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 9

Corn and soybean planting were in full swing last week as favorable weather conditions existed over most of the state, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Planting progress for both crops advanced well ahead of last year and the average. Farmers in some northern areas of the state were able to plant every day last week.

CORN AND SOYBEANS

Corn acreage **planted** soared to 57 percent last week, compared with 13 percent last year and the 5-year average of 32 percent. Planting is now running about 9 days ahead of the average. By area, corn planting is 49 percent complete in the north, 74 percent complete in the central, and 38 percent complete in the southern part of the state. Nine percent of the crop had **emerged** by the end of the week compared with 3 percent a year ago.

Soybean planting made good progress last week as acreage planted jumped to 21 percent complete, ahead of last year's 3 percent and the 5-year average of 11 percent. Planting is about 8 days ahead of last year and about a week ahead of the average. As of May 9, Northern Indiana reported 16 percent of the crop planted, Central Indiana had 28 percent planted and the southern part of the state had 11 percent of the crop in the ground.

WINTER WHEAT

Ninety-seven percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed**, compared with 98 percent last year and 80 percent for the 5-year average. Twenty-three percent of the wheat crop is **headed**. The **condition** of the crop improved slightly from 85 percent good to excellent last week to 87 percent this week.

OTHER CROPS

Pasture condition was rated 16 percent excellent, 64 percent good, 18 percent fair, and 2 percent poor.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 5.0 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork**. Many areas with surplus moisture a week ago dropped into the adequate moisture category by the end of the week. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 5 percent short, 70 percent adequate and 25 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 6 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 16 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
				Percent
Corn Planted	57	10	13	32
Corn Emerged	9	NA	3	NA
Soybeans Planted	21	4	3	11
Wheat Jointed	97	91	98	80
Wheat Headed	23	3	33	15

CROP CONDITION

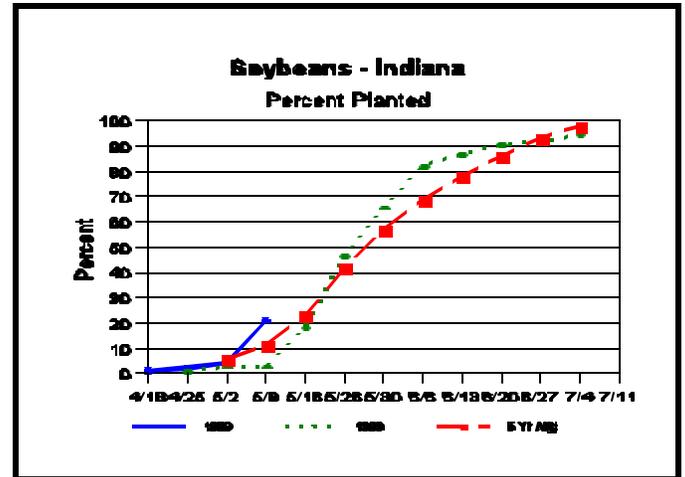
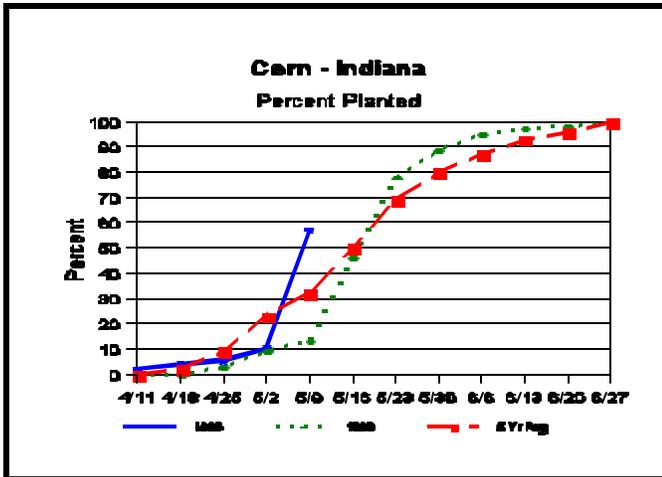
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-
					lent
Percent					
Winter Wheat 5/9	0	1	12	63	24
Winter Wheat 5/2	0	2	13	62	23
Winter Wheat	0	2	17	54	27
Pasture	0	2	18	64	16

SOIL MOISTURE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
			Percent
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	5	1	0
Adequate	70	49	14
Surplus	25	50	86
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	6	5	0
Adequate	78	63	29
Surplus	16	32	71

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Crop Progress



Producers Should Watch for White Grubs During Tillage and Planting Operations

- ™ White grubs could be present in some fields
- ™ Different species of white grubs may be observed
- ™ Identification of the grub species is important

Most years we receive questions concerning Japanese beetle white grubs in corn and their control. These grubs are often seen during tillage or planting operations or are observed close to the planted seed when farmers check for germination and/or seed/seedling condition.

If corn is slow to emerge, it is often assumed that the grubs are feeding on the seed/seedling. However, cool soil temperatures are usually the reason for slow plant emergence. Additionally, the grubs are less active in cool soils than they are in warmer soils, so little feeding occurs early when we have cool conditions like we have experienced over the past several days. Annual white grubs, like the Japanese beetle, do much of their feeding in late summer and early fall when field crops generally have massive root systems and are less susceptible to economic root damage. When the grubs emerge the next spring, there is a relatively short period of time from initiation of feeding activity to pupation in late May or early June. The length of this period will govern to a large degree as to whether economic damage will occur. Another white grub, the immature of the May/June beetle, has

a 2 to 3-year grub cycle and can feed on corn roots for a longer period of time. However, economic populations of this grub species do not occur very often in Indiana. A smaller white grub that may be seen from time to time either alone or with Japanese beetle grubs is a species of *Aphodius*. This grub is approximately 3/16 inch across the broadest point of the "C" (Japanese beetle approximately 3/8 inch now and 1/2 inch when full grown). *Aphodius* feeds primarily on decaying plant matter and is not considered of economic importance in corn.

If corn planting occurs after the first week in May, the chance of economic Japanese beetle grub damage occurring is greatly reduced. Producers who find grubs should collect several to take to their county extension educator, crop consultant, or agriculture chemical/fertilizer dealer for positive identification. Depending on the species, the numbers observed, the time of the year, and the crop to be planted control may or may not be warranted. Since rescue treatments are not available, the most effective way to control the grubs is to apply a soil insecticide at planting. If an economic grub population is observed in a field that has already been planted and the stand is threatened, a soil insecticide could be used as part of a replant operation. Replanting, however, is not recommended unless a critical level of plants is being significantly damaged or destroyed by grubs. Remember that a number of factors can cause stand reductions. If a stand is declining due to grub activity, make sure that the grubs are still actively feeding on the roots before making a replant decision.

—Rich Edwards, John Obermeyer, and Larry Bledsoe, Purdue University

Weather Data

Week ending Sunday May 9, 1999

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in. Soil Temp	April 1, 1999 thru May 9, 1999				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Precipitation		GGD Base 50°F		
							Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Bloomington	82	43	63	+4	1.44	3		5.74	+0.45	18	306	+69
Bluffton	81	45	63	+7	0.12	2	59	2.78	-1.95	14	239	+76
Butlerville	82	44	63	+3	0.92	3	66	5.25	-0.07	24	293	+20
Castleton	81	46	63	+5	0.42	4		5.15	+0.09	23	288	+93
Crawfordsville	80	37	61	+3	0.41	4	58	3.90	-1.39	20	195	-11
Dubois_Ag	81	43	64	+5	1.32	3	66	5.61	+0.07	21	334	+84
Evansville	81	49	65	+4	1.36	3		7.84	+2.44	16	410	+92
Farmland	82	43	62	+7	0.27	3	58	4.92	+0.27	22	227	+98
Fort_Wayne	81	45	62	+6	0.28	2		6.69	+2.32	19	219	+74
Freelandville	81	50	65	+5	1.25	3		5.57	+0.27	19	309	+68
Greenfield	81	46	63	+6	0.59	4		4.50	-0.83	23	264	+85
Indianapolis_AP	80	47	64	+5	0.35	3		4.63	-0.24	24	323	+113
Indianapolis_SE	80	43	63	+5	0.38	3		4.82	-0.24	26	257	+62
Logansport	80	39	62	+6	0.13	2		5.46	+0.91	18	221	+66
New_Castle	79	48	62	+6	0.30	3		4.98	-0.40	22	203	+69
Perrysville	81	47	63	+6	0.59	5	63	5.17	+0.13	21	263	+77
Plymouth	82	44	63	+6	0.30	3		8.16	+3.18	18	219	+47
Scottsburg	83	44	65	+5	1.15	3		4.46	-1.03	16	337	+93
Shoals	83	42	63	+4	0.90	2		4.99	-0.60	16	308	+72
South_Bend	81	42	63	+8	0.19	2		7.69	+2.93	18	229	+93
Tell_City	83	48	65	+4	2.73	3		7.46	+1.21	11	394	+106
Terre_Haute_Ag	84	47	67	+8	0.92	2	68	4.77	-0.44	16	361	+140
Tipton_Ag	81	45	62	+6	0.21	3	60	4.38	-0.68	18	203	+67
Valparaiso_Ag	80	45	62	+6	0.63	3		6.92	+1.82	17	214	+65
Vincennes_5NE	81	45	65	+5	1.33	3	66	7.19	+1.89	22	323	+82
Wanatah	82	39	60	+6	0.37	3	63	7.62	+2.73	20	146	+25
W_Lafayette_6NW	82	46	63	+7	0.69	3	64	6.43	+1.55	18	237	+76
Wheatfield	81	44	63	+8	0.21	3		7.77	+2.98	17	215	+84
Winamac	81	48	63	+7	0.26	3		7.87	+3.17	18	228	+68
Young_America	81	44	62	+6	0.10	2		4.55	+0.00	18	200	+45

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GGD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Emerging Soybean May Invite Hungry Beetles

- ™ Early emerging soybean should be scouted for bean leaf beetle
- ™ Cotyledons and young leaves are prime feeding targets
- ™ Use treatment thresholds to make control

The trend of planting soybean before corn has continued this spring and this practice may attract bean leaf beetle to those early emerging fields. Economic numbers of bean leaf beetle are possible because of the mild winter. Overwintering bean leaf beetle become active on warm days in the spring and seek legumes, e.g., alfalfa and soybean, to feed and propagate.

One of the most critical times for soybean damage is from emergence through the establishment of the first trifoliolate. If cotyledons are being destroyed before the unifoliolate leaves fully emerge or if the growing point is severely damaged, reduced yields are likely. However, once trifoliolate leaves have unrolled, soybean can tolerate up to about 40 percent defoliation without yield loss.

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