



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 2

Fields were too wet in most areas of the State early in the period to support heavy equipment. Subsoil moisture continued to improve, aided by the recent rainfall. Farmers in some areas resumed harvesting of winter wheat, spraying and hay baling activities. Harvesting of winter wheat has been difficult in some areas of the State. Ponding in soybean fields may necessitate replanting.

CORN AND SOYBEANS

Corn **condition** declined last week and is rated 84 percent good to excellent compared with 87 percent last year at this time. Corn continues to make good growth. Planting of double crop **soybean** acreage continued in southern areas. Soybean **condition** also declined and is rated 63 percent good to excellent compared with 81 percent last year. Eighteen percent of the soybean acreage is **blooming** compared with 19 percent last year and 6 percent for the average.

WINTER WHEAT

Winter wheat **harvest** continued to make good progress in southern and central areas. Forty-seven percent is harvested, on par with last year at this time, but ahead of the 32 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 73 percent good to excellent compared with 80 percent at this time last year.

OTHER CROPS

Pasture condition is rated 19 percent excellent, 53 percent good, 23 percent fair and 5 percent poor. Transplanting of **tobacco** is virtually complete compared with 99 percent last year and 82 percent for the average. Second cutting of **alfalfa hay** is 20 percent complete compared with 39 percent a year ago at this time.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 3.7 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 24 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 3 percent very short, 14 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Wheat Harvested	47	19	47	32
Corn Silking	5	NA	4	1
Soybeans Blooming	18	10	19	6
Alfalfa, Second Cutting	20	NA	39	NA
Tobacco Plants Set	100	97	99	82

CROP CONDITION

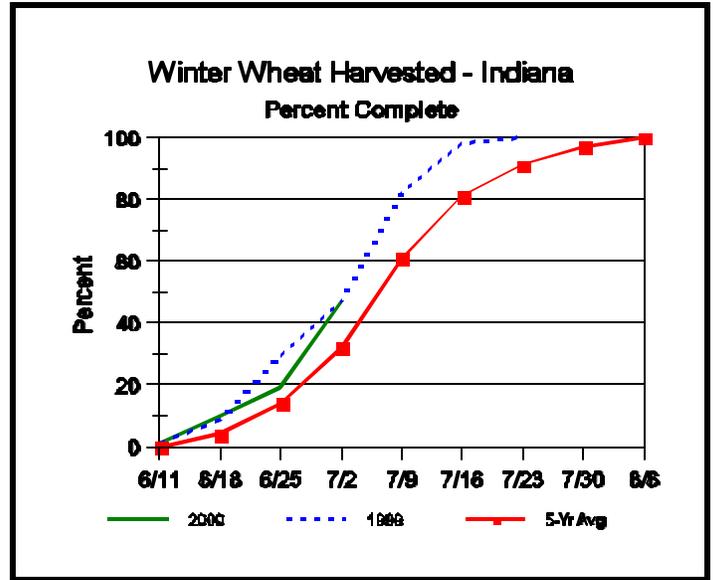
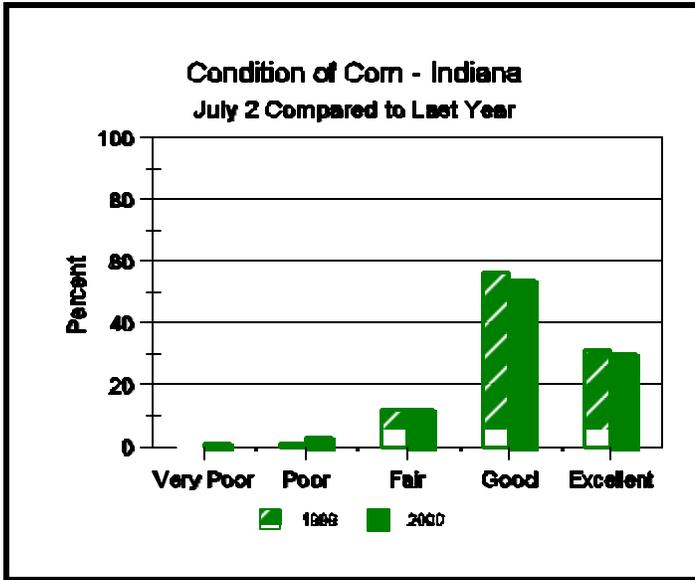
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	1	3	12	54	30
Soybeans	2	8	27	49	14
Winter Wheat 2000	5	6	16	50	23
Pasture	0	5	23	53	19

SOIL MOISTURE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	2
Short	3	3	11
Adequate	73	63	65
Surplus	24	34	22
Subsoil			
Very Short	3	4	3
Short	14	19	14
Adequate	71	64	70
Surplus	12	13	13

--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician
 --Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician
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Crop Progress



Japanese Beetle, Feeding in Field Crops and Grub Potential

- Annual grub feeding is over, now it's the beetle's turn
- Watch for activity on soybean, and later on corn silks
- Management information provided
- Discussion of controlling adults to prevent grub damage next year

Japanese beetle adults are emerging throughout most of Indiana. These adults developed from grubs feeding in lawns, other grassy areas, and agricultural crops. This year's infestation of adults is the result of eggs that were laid by female beetles last summer. After these eggs hatched in 1999, the grubs immediately began to feed on roots and decaying organic matter in the soil. They continued their feeding from late summer into the fall. Damage to field crops was not noted late last summer since root systems were quite extensive and well established by that time. The grubs overwintered deep in the soil and returned to near the soil surface to feed early this spring.

Spring root feeding by the grubs can result in serious damage to early planted crops, especially corn. This spring this was the case in some fields, especially in northern half of Indiana. Since this marks the beginning of a new cycle for this pest, pest managers should be monitoring for Japanese beetles on a

regular basis. Over the next two months watch for two things: 1) adult feeding on this year's crop(s) and 2) grub potential for next year's crop.

Japanese beetles will feed on more than 300 different species of plants, but are especially fond of roses, grapes, smartweed, soybeans, corn silks, flowers of all kinds, and overripe fruit. Beetle damage to cultivated crops is often minimal and defoliation (leaf removal) on soybeans usually looks much worse than it is. The beetles often congregate in several areas of a soybean field, feeding on and mating in the upper canopy. This is often observed by producers from the cabs of their trucks. The beetles' iridescent, metallic color catches the attention of those doing "windshield" field inspections. Closer inspections will often reveal that weeds such as smartweed have made fields even more attractive to the beetles.

Although soybeans can sustain economic damage from the feeding of the beetles, soybeans have the amazing ability to withstand considerable damage (defoliation) before economic losses occur. The impact of defoliation is greatest during flowering and pod fill because of the importance of leaf area to photosynthesis, and ultimately to yield. Therefore, nearly 50% soybean defoliation before bloom or 15-25% defoliation from bloom to pod fill can be tolerated before yields are economically affected.

(Continued on Page 4.)

Weather Data

Week ending Sunday July 2, 2000

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 2000 thru July 2, 2000				
							4 in	Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Valparaiso_Ag	84	54	68	-4	0.10	2		17.89	+5.55	48	1019	-32
Wanatah	85	52	68	-4	0.05	2	75	15.34	+3.64	39	1017	+22
Wheatfield	85	52	69	-4	0.39	1		15.28	+3.67	35	1081	+53
Winamac	84	53	68	-4	0.20	2	76	12.58	+0.90	34	1071	-16
North Central (2)												
Logansport	86	56	69	-4	0.27	1		12.44	+1.22	41	1101	+0
Plymouth	84	52	67	-6	0.22	1		14.62	+2.46	41	983	-152
South_Bend	81	53	68	-5	0.70	2		14.67	+3.25	44	1032	+1
Young_America	83	53	68	-5	0.06	2		13.59	+2.37	38	1174	+73
Northeast (3)												
Bluffton	84	53	69	-5	0.23	3	69	13.20	+1.39	41	1127	-3
Fort_Wayne	83	53	68	-6	0.39	3		15.40	+4.74	40	1101	+15
West Central (4)												
Crawfordsville	82	51	67	-8	0.16	2	72	12.18	-0.16	36	1084	-139
Perrysville	84	53	69	-5	0.27	3	74	13.98	+1.56	39	1185	-1
Terre_Haute_Ag	86	55	73	-2	0.66	2	76	17.03	+4.79	38	1395	+121
W_Lafayette_6NW	84	56	70	-3	0.05	2	72	12.40	+0.84	38	1175	+67
Central (5)												
Castleton	84	55	70	-6	0.14	2		15.32	+3.61	47	1222	-14
Greenfield	83	55	69	-5	0.18	3		17.03	+4.85	44	1231	+41
Greensburg	84	55	70	-4	0.22	2		16.16	+3.47	47	1276	+98
Indianapolis_AP	84	55	70	-5	0.02	1		13.80	+2.34	36	1301	+40
Indianapolis_SE	84	52	69	-6	0.04	2		13.94	+2.23	36	1219	-17
Tipton_Ag	83	52	67	-7	0.05	2	73	11.70	+0.22	37	1048	-15
East Central (6)												
Farmland	83	51	68	-5	0.06	2	69	14.99	+3.23	43	1127	+102
New_Castle	82	51	67	-6	0.07	2		14.46	+1.73	41	980	-72
Southwest (7)												
Dubois_Ag	85	56	71	-4	0.41	3	78	12.09	-1.48	44	1415	+127
Evansville	85	58	73	-6	1.68	4		10.83	-1.66	40	1532	+13
Freelandville	84	59	72	-4	0.00	0		12.79	-0.07	31	1373	+46
Shoals	85	54	70	-5	0.25	3		15.69	+1.98	43	1296	+27
Vincennes_5NE	87	57	71	-5	0.16	2	74	14.68	+1.94	39	1349	+22
South Central (8)												
Bloomington	86	54	70	-6	0.17	1		14.04	+1.54	35	1265	-26
Tell_City	86	59	72	-5	2.03	2		14.87	+0.89	35	1461	+38
Southeast (9)												
Scottsburg	85	56	71	-5	0.57	2		15.30	+2.62	34	1402	+87

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
 GDD = 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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Japanese Beetle, Feeding in Field Crops and Grub Potential (continued)

This average defoliation must occur for the whole plant, not just the upper canopy. In corn, Japanese beetle feeding on corn silks is usually minimal and spotty. Field inspections will often reveal that this feeding is not prevalent much beyond the field borders. If beetles are feeding on corn silks, an insecticide should be applied only if silks are being cut off to less than ½ inch before 50% pollination has taken place. Beetles are often attracted to dead or dying silks to feed, obviously beyond 50% pollination.

Controlling beetles to prevent egg laying and therefore grubs in next year's crop, in theory sounds feasible, but has not been researched. The Japanese beetle can fly considerable distances to a field if something within the field attracts them. Thus, reinfestations can occur because the beetles are with us such a long period of time. As well, even though beetles are present in a field, it does not mean that the field will have an economic grub population next

year. Soil type, overwintering success, as well as many other factors, will impact egg laying and grub establishment. Certain areas of the state have perennial problems with this insect and fields within these areas should be closely watched. Because Japanese beetle populations are usually clumped in fields, spot treatments may be an option for heavy infestations. This may reduce, but not eliminate, the grub feeding potential for next year. Grub history fields that have high beetle populations this year and will go to corn in 2001, may need a planting time insecticide placed in-furrow for grub control. However, this year, even full rates of labeled soil insecticides did not sufficiently control some grub populations. Delayed corn planting, early May rather than mid-April, should also be considered where economic grub infestations are expected.

—John Obermeyer, Larry Bledsoe, and Rich Edwards,
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