Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 8

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Corn and soybean harvest was slowed by rain in many areas of the state last week. Some central areas received heavy amounts and strong winds, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn harvest is 4 days ahead of average, but 8 days behind last year's pace. Soybean harvest is 2 days behind average and 7 days behind a year ago at this time. The week number has changed for the current crop weather release based on the new standard numbering system established by NASS.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Ninety-eight percent of the corn acreage is **mature** compared with 100 percent last year and 92 percent for the average. Thirty-three percent of the corn acreage is **harvested** compared with 51 percent last year and 26 percent for the 5-year average. By region, 25 percent of the corn acreage is harvested in the north, 34 percent in the central region and 49 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging 21 percent.

Virtually all of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 100 percent a year earlier and 96 percent for the average. Ninety percent of the soybean acreage is reported as **mature** compared with 96 percent a year ago and 84 percent for the average. Forty-four percent of the soybean acreage is **harvested** compared with 65 percent last year and 48 percent for the average. By region, 54 percent of the soybean acreage is harvested in the north, 41 percent in the central region and 34 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging 12 percent.

Twenty-eight percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **seeded** compared with 36 percent last year and 31 percent for the average. Four percent of the winter wheat acreage is **emerged** compared with 6 percent last year and 7 percent for the 5-year average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 13 percent excellent, 61 percent good, 22 percent fair, 3 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Cattle are mostly in good condition around the state.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Mature	98	94	100	92
Corn Harvested	33	22	51	26
Soybeans Shedding Lv	100	95	100	96
Soybeans Mature	90	76	96	84
Soybeans Harvested	44	21	65	48
Winter Wheat Seeded	28	8	36	31
Winter Wheat Emerged	4	0	6	7

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	1	5	22	54	18
Soybeans	2	6	26	53	13
Pasture	1	3	22	61	13

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	1	33
Short	2	5	34
Adequate	55	76	33
Surplus	43	18	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	3	6	48
Short	12	15	40
Adequate	68	69	12
Surplus	17	10	0
Days Suitable	4.3	4.1	5.3

CONTACT INFORMATION

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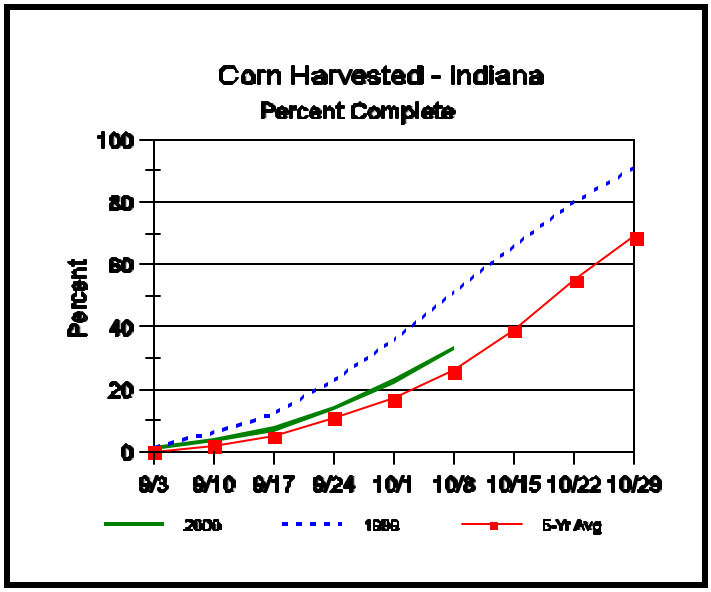
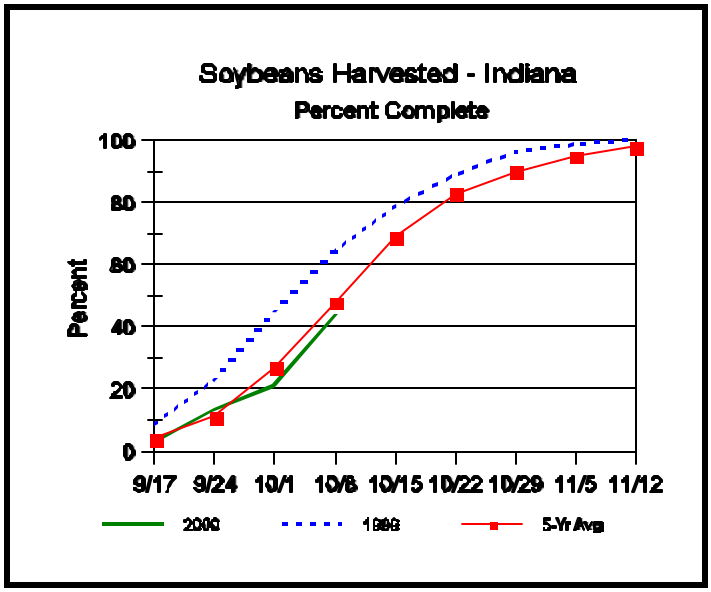
http://info.aes.purdue.edu/agstat/nass.html

Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Continuous-Cropped Soybeans Pose Greater Disease Risk

Farmers who next year plant soybeans on the same acreage they produced soybeans this year could expose their crops to a greater risk of disease, says Greg Shaner, Purdue professor of botany and plant pathology.

"There are now about as many acres of soybeans in Indiana as of corn," Shaner says. "Therefore, if there is a substantial shift to more soybean planting relative to corn, a lot of soybeans will be planted in 2001 on ground that was planted to soybeans this year.

"Regardless of the economic pros and cons of making this change in cropping practice, there are disease consequences that could be seen next year and for many years to come in fields that are continuously cropped to soybeans."

Most major soybean diseases in Indiana are caused by organisms that reside in the soil, Shaner says, including soybean cyst nematode, Phytophthora rot, sudden death syndrome, white mold and brown stem rot. Because the pathogens are soilborne, they don't spread quickly from field to field, Shaner says.

"The severity of these diseases depends greatly on crop production practices in a field," he says. "Other things being equal, the more frequently soybeans are grown in a field, the more likely one or more of these diseases is to be a serious problem."

Much of Indiana's field crop acreage is in a corn-soybean rotation. Although the pathogens that cause soybean diseases do not infect corn, they can survive during the year corn is grown. "This is why we have seen a general increase in problems with most of these diseases over the past 20 years," Shaner says.

Growing soybeans in the same field year to year can aggravate disease problems, because pathogen populations will continue to increase every year, Shaner says. Sudden death syndrome (SDS) is severe in parts of Indiana this year. If SDS-infected fields are planted to soybeans in 2001, that could set the stage for a severe epidemic, Shaner says.

There also have been reports of Phytophthora rot, soybean cyst nematode and white mold showing up in Indiana fields this year.

"When these diseases are severe, we know that the pathogens are multiplying, and their

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday October 8, 2000

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation April 1, 2000 thru October 8, 2000				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Valparaiso_Ag	80	33	54	-5	1.55	4		26.63	+1.70	82	2831	-12
Wanatah	83	29	54	-2	1.74	4	60	27.06	+3.05	75	2689	-19
Wheatfield	84	29	55	-1	1.54	4		25.45	+2.22	61	2902	+138
Winamac	83	28	55	-2	1.30	3	59	24.43	+1.33	67	2827	-23
North Central (2)												
Logansport	82	31	56	-1	1.57	4		26.44	+4.03	75	2925	-24
Plymouth	80	31	55	-4	1.89	5		27.45	+3.71	79	2699	-300
South_Bend	81	31	55	-2	1.65	4		23.74	+0.68	79	2801	-10
Young_America	84	30	56	-2	1.15	3		24.00	+1.59	69	2989	+40
Northeast (3)												
Bluffton	82	33	57	+0	1.75	3	55	25.87	+3.78	76	2916	-115
Fort_Wayne	82	33	57	-1	1.24	4		27.12	+6.61	71	2896	-54
West Central (4)												
Crawfordsville	83	28	56	-2	1.77	3	61	27.48	+3.51	66	2831	-329
Perrysville	84	29	58	+0	2.11	3	62	25.24	+1.03	72	3078	-21
Terre_Haute_Ag	87	30	58	-2	2.33	2	66	35.25	+10.80	73	3532	+223
W_Lafayette_6NW	83	27	56	-2	1.16	3	56	21.46	-1.35	75	3054	+117
Central (5)												
Castleton	82	31	58	-2	2.20	2		33.49	+10.19	85	3087	-186
Greenfield	83	31	58	+1	2.92	2		32.67	+7.75	77	3110	-44
Greensburg	82	30	60	+3	3.20	2		32.59	+8.36	81	3221	+149
Indianapolis_AP	81	30	59	+0	2.64	2		28.47	+5.68	67	3304	+26
Indianapolis_SE	82	31	58	-2	3.04	3		31.29	+7.99	70	3036	-237
Tipton_Ag	82	29	56	-1	1.60	2	61	26.59	+3.32	71	2750	-95
East Central (6)												
Farmland	83	29	57	+2	1.59	2	58	31.56	+9.04	75	2837	+61
New_Castle	81	27	57	+0	2.07	2		29.70	+5.84	71	2539	-307
Southwest (7)												
Dubois_Ag	84	31	62	+3	0.03	1	64	29.22	+2.98	76	3513	+164
Evansville	85	32	64	+3	0.21	1		25.84	+2.79	71	3804	+2
Freelandville	84	32	61	+2	1.92	2		33.56	+9.55	62	3428	+10
Shoals	84	29	61	+3	0.40	2		33.29	+7.39	74	3280	-35
Vincennes_5NE	84	32	60	+2	1.74	3	59	35.94	+12.05	70	3477	+59
South Central (8)												
Bloomington	83	31	63	+4	2.59	3		33.06	+8.67	65	3137	-227
Tell_City	86	35	65	+4	0.30	1		28.50	+2.21	61	3719	+38
Southeast (9)												
Scottsburg	83	31	62	+4	0.62	2		34.42	+9.74	67	3450	+46

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.

The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
www.awis.com or call toll free at 1-888-798-9955.

numbers at the end of the season will be much larger than they were last spring," Shaner says. "These pathogens will survive the winter and be ready to infect soybeans next spring if that crop is sown back into these fields."

"It is impossible to predict which diseases, if any, will be a problem next year, because weather plays an important role", Shaner says. "But, we can say that in fields where disease was severe this year, there will be even more inoculum ready to infect soybeans next year if weather conditions are favorable," he says.

Shaner says farmers considering planting soybeans in 2001 in fields that produced the crop this year should carefully weigh their decision.

"If a field had disease problems this year, it could be very risky to plant soybeans again next spring. If a field had only a low level of disease this year, going back into soybeans next year could lead to a further buildup of one or more pathogens, leading to problems in future years," Shaner says.

"If a grower contemplates going back into a field with soybeans that has soybeans in it this year, it would be a good idea to have the soil tested for soybean cyst nematodes, and then to use an SCN-resistant variety, if appropriate.

"Use of soybean varieties with resistance to Phytophthora rot would also be advisable. Knowledge of the history of specific disease problems in a field is important for making sound planting decisions for 2001", Shaner adds.

Comments on Ag Answers? Story Ideas? Please share them with Steve Leer (sleer@aes.purdue.edu),Ag Answers Writer/Editor, Agricultural Communication Service, Purdue University.

Source: Agricultural Communication Service, Purdue University.

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