



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 PURDUE UNIVERSITY
 1148 AGAD BLDG, ROOM 223
 WEST LAFAYETTE IN 47907-1148
 Phone (765)494-8371
 Phone (800)363-0469
 FAX (765)494-4315
 FAX (800)363-0475

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 29

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

After a slow start, farmers had an excellent week to resume planting of corn and soybeans, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn planting is 1 day ahead of a year earlier and 6 days ahead of the 5-year average. The best progress continued to be in the southwestern region of the state for planting corn, but the central areas also made good progress last week. Pastures and forage crops are improving.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

Fieldwork made excellent progress in most areas of the state. There were 5.2 **days** suitable for fieldwork. Forty percent of the **corn** acreage is planted compared with 32 percent last year and 18 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 14 percent of the corn is planted in the north, 52 percent in the central regions and 68 percent in the south. Some early planted corn fields have emerged, mostly in the southwest and some central areas. Ten percent of the **soybean** acreage is planted compared with 9 percent a year ago and 6 percent for the average. Other activities during the week included tilling soils, hauling grain to market, applying anhydrous ammonia, preparing equipment, spraying, purchasing supplies, and hauling manure.

Eighty-two percent of the winter wheat acreage is **jointed**, behind the 95 percent for the previous year, but ahead of the 72 percent for the 5-year average. Four percent of the wheat is **headed** compared with 11 percent last year and 4 percent for the average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 75 percent good to excellent compared with 75 percent a year ago at this time.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 9 percent excellent, 58 percent good, 26 percent fair, 6 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. **Hay** supplies are mostly adequate. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Most of the cattle are now on pasture. Calving remains active. Spring lambing is virtually complete.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Year Avg |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| | Percent | | | |
| Corn Planted | 40 | 11 | 32 | 18 |
| Soybeans Planted | 10 | NA | 9 | 6 |
| Winter Wheat Jointed | 82 | 56 | 95 | 72 |
| Winter Wheat Headed | 4 | 0 | 11 | 4 |

CROP CONDITION TABLE

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Pasture | 1 | 6 | 26 | 58 | 9 |
| Winter Wheat 2001 | 0 | 5 | 20 | 61 | 14 |
| Winter Wheat 2000 | 1 | 5 | 19 | 53 | 22 |

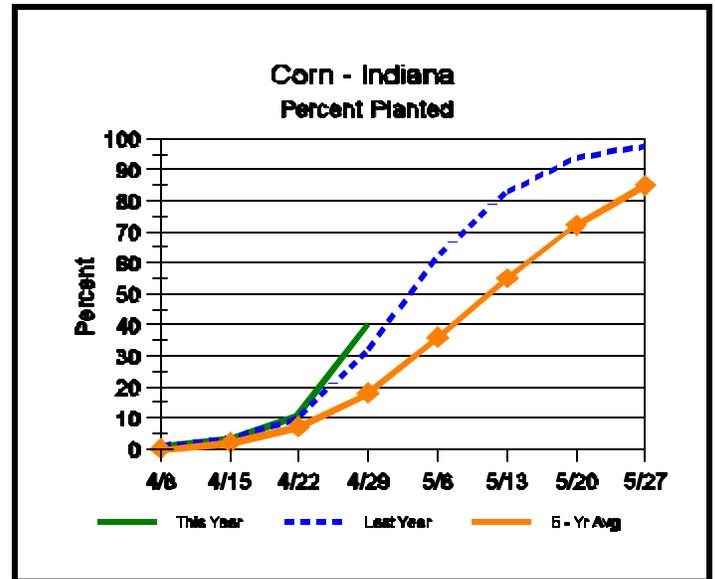
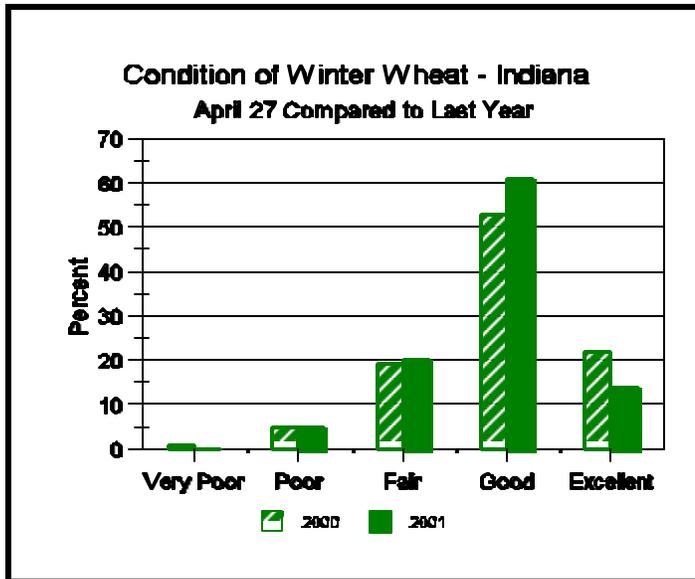
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Percent | | |
| Topsoil | | | |
| Very Short | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| Short | 19 | 12 | 18 |
| Adequate | 70 | 67 | 67 |
| Surplus | 6 | 18 | 9 |
| Subsoil | | | |
| Very Short | 5 | 4 | 16 |
| Short | 23 | 18 | 39 |
| Adequate | 68 | 69 | 41 |
| Surplus | 4 | 9 | 4 |
| Days Suitable | 5.2 | 3.4 | 4.3 |

CONTACT INFORMATION

--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician
 --Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician
 E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm>

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Getting Off To A Good Start

- Making the most of your herbicide program
- Stressing good agronomic practices

Production input cost is a primary concern to Indiana producers this year. One of their main concerns is the price of weed control. Going after the cheapest products, while a good idea, works only if they are right for the weeds that are present in a field. There is no substitute for knowing the weed spectrum for each field and matching the herbicides for those weeds. There are few if any truly cheap herbicides left on the market. If only one species of weed escapes the herbicide program in populations high enough to cause economic problems to the crop, additional applications will be needed. This could cause the overall cost of the herbicide program to increase by 50 to 100%.

If the field is to be no-tilled, then the burndown program must be complete. This can only be accomplished if the right burndown products are used at the correct rates and when the temperature is favorable for good kill. Changing the rates of one of the mixture components may be needed. If there are a large number of broadleaf weeds such as marestail, fleabane, prickly lettuce, etc., additional

2,4-D might be needed; if a large number of grass species are present, then a little more Roundup or Touchdown will help. If the weeds can be controlled with Gramoxone, maybe an additional half pint will help achieve complete burndown. Adding a little more product to the burndown is cheaper than having escapes or regrowth which may take an additional late application of a product at the full labeled rate. Likewise, making the application a few days later when the temperature is warmer will cause the herbicides to work better. The other option is to add a residual herbicide to the burndown spray. In corn, adding a product that contains atrazine in the burndown tank mix can improve the control of many of the hard-to-control weeds in no-tilled fields. There are many residual soybean herbicides that can be mixed with burndown treatments to boost the performance of the herbicides and provide a clean seedbed to start the crop off right.

A healthy uniform crop stand can do wonders toward competing with weeds, especially late emerging weeds. Getting the crop off to a good start will make any herbicide program work better and will best allow less than maximum rates of postemergence herbicides to perform. A healthy and uniform crop stand will also come closer to eliminating the need for an additional postemergence herbicide application to control late emerging weeds.

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday April 29, 2001

| Station | Past Week Weather Summary Data | | | | | | | Accumulation | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----|-----|-----|---------|------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|------|
| | Air Temperature | | | | Precip. | | Avg | April 1, 2001 thru April 29, 2001 | | | | |
| | Hi | Lo | Avg | DFN | Total | Days | 4 in Soil Temp | Precipitation | | GDD Base 50°F | | |
| | | | | | | | | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN |
| Northwest (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Valparaiso_Ag | 77 | 39 | 57 | +5 | 0.16 | 2 | | 2.56 | -1.27 | 13 | 185 | +108 |
| Wanatah | 78 | 37 | 57 | +6 | 0.30 | 3 | 61 | 2.68 | -1.01 | 16 | 160 | +101 |
| Wheatfield | 82 | 39 | 59 | +8 | 0.24 | 2 | | 3.20 | -0.46 | 15 | 202 | +139 |
| Winamac | 82 | 37 | 58 | +5 | 0.10 | 1 | 61 | 3.04 | -0.52 | 14 | 196 | +114 |
| North Central(2) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Logansport | 81 | 37 | 57 | +4 | 0.37 | 2 | | 3.71 | +0.36 | 14 | 205 | +126 |
| Plymouth | 80 | 37 | 57 | +3 | 0.25 | 2 | | 2.94 | -0.80 | 15 | 180 | +90 |
| South_Bend | 77 | 39 | 57 | +6 | 0.29 | 2 | | 3.84 | +0.13 | 14 | 192 | +124 |
| Young_America | 84 | 37 | 58 | +6 | 0.11 | 1 | | 2.76 | -0.59 | 11 | 217 | +138 |
| Northeast (3) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bluffton | 81 | 33 | 57 | +4 | 0.15 | 2 | 55 | 3.36 | -0.22 | 16 | 205 | +120 |
| Fort_Wayne | 80 | 33 | 56 | +4 | 0.14 | 2 | | 3.60 | +0.33 | 16 | 201 | +128 |
| West Central (4) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Crawfordsville | 83 | 32 | 57 | +2 | 0.33 | 1 | 58 | 2.50 | -1.48 | 13 | 226 | +110 |
| Perrysville | 83 | 36 | 59 | +5 | 0.35 | 1 | 58 | 1.99 | -1.75 | 11 | 260 | +159 |
| Terre_Haute_Ag | 85 | 36 | 61 | +5 | 0.55 | 1 | 60 | 3.34 | -0.41 | 14 | 301 | +175 |
| W_Lafayette_6NW | 83 | 36 | 59 | +6 | 0.32 | 1 | 58 | 2.81 | -0.77 | 11 | 229 | +146 |
| Central (5) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Castleton | 82 | 35 | 58 | +4 | 0.11 | 1 | | 2.67 | -0.94 | 11 | 260 | +154 |
| Greenfield | 82 | 35 | 58 | +4 | 0.18 | 1 | | 2.18 | -1.70 | 13 | 259 | +165 |
| Greensburg | 86 | 34 | 60 | +5 | 0.38 | 1 | | 3.01 | -0.91 | 10 | 278 | +170 |
| Indianapolis_AP | 82 | 39 | 60 | +5 | 0.10 | 1 | | 1.86 | -1.71 | 10 | 303 | +187 |
| Indianapolis_SE | 83 | 32 | 59 | +4 | 0.13 | 1 | | 1.90 | -1.71 | 9 | 262 | +156 |
| Tipton_Ag | 82 | 34 | 57 | +5 | 0.13 | 1 | 57 | 3.04 | -0.72 | 10 | 204 | +138 |
| East Central (6) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Farmland | 82 | 29 | 56 | +4 | 0.12 | 1 | 55 | 3.52 | +0.07 | 11 | 216 | +155 |
| New_Castle | 80 | 31 | 54 | +2 | 0.31 | 1 | | 4.09 | +0.16 | 14 | 190 | +125 |
| Southwest (7) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dubois_Ag | 83 | 34 | 59 | +3 | 0.49 | 1 | 66 | 1.74 | -2.31 | 6 | 321 | +170 |
| Evansville | 82 | 37 | 61 | +2 | 0.38 | 1 | | 1.69 | -2.18 | 9 | 366 | +169 |
| Freelandville | 82 | 40 | 60 | +4 | 0.26 | 1 | | 1.62 | -2.10 | 10 | 313 | +171 |
| Shoals | 84 | 33 | 59 | +3 | 0.56 | 2 | | 1.78 | -2.17 | 8 | 308 | +168 |
| Vincennes_5NE | 84 | 37 | 61 | +5 | 0.18 | 2 | 59 | 1.20 | -2.52 | 9 | 324 | +182 |
| South Central(8) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bloomington | 82 | 40 | 60 | +4 | 0.41 | 2 | | 1.35 | -2.41 | 9 | 306 | +167 |
| Tell_City | 82 | 39 | 61 | +3 | 0.43 | 1 | | 1.67 | -2.98 | 6 | 338 | +162 |
| Southeast (9) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scottsburg | 84 | 34 | 60 | +3 | 0.52 | 1 | | 2.13 | -1.91 | 8 | 317 | +175 |

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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Getting Off To A Good Start (Continued)

Listed below are 10 tips that I feel will help make a successful weed control program, and at the same time keep the cost of the program at a minimum.

1. Review last year's herbicide program. If there is a potential for carryover, don't use herbicides with similar modes of action as those used last year.
2. Compare herbicide products as to their effectiveness on the weeds that are in a given field, and buy the products or program of products that is most economical for controlling those weeds.
3. Don't cheat on the burndown herbicide program. Use full rates of Roundup, Touchdown, 2,4-D, or paraquat to achieve complete control of existing weeds. Dandelions and marestail can be controlled with more 2,4-D and less Roundup or Touchdown in the mixture. Grasses will need more Roundup or Touchdown and less 2,4-D.
4. Don't spray burndown herbicides too early. When the temperatures are in the 50's, these products do not work as well as they do when the temperature is in the 70's or higher. Likewise, don't spray postemergence herbicides when there has been a prolonged dry period and the temperatures are in the high 90's. Usually this causes excessive crop damage and is not very effective at controlling weeds.
5. Use good agronomic practices to get a healthy well-established uniform crop stand. The good start and early crop competition will reduce the need for rescue treatments and the overall cost of herbicides by shading out late emerging weeds.
6. Control weeds that emerge after the crop earlier than usual. This will allow for the use of less than maximum label rates of herbicides. Leave the weeds that come in after mid season unless they are extremely heavy and large. These weeds seldom cause yield losses.
7. Use the correct spray additives with burndown and postemergence herbicides. Use only those that are recommended on the product label. Many products will perform equally well, thus buy the cheapest ones. Use AMS with Roundup and other herbicide products that call for this additive on their label, especially when using hard water or water high in iron content.
8. When using less than the labeled rates of postemergence herbicides, spray earlier than normal to achieve good weed control. Be prepared to make a second application 10 to 14 days later if the reduced rates were not totally effective.
9. With highly plant-mobile herbicides such as Roundup, Select, Poast or other grass specific products, reduce the spray volume to improve the performance of the herbicide. With Basagran, Blazer, Cobra, Reflex or other contact sprays, use the higher labeled recommended carrier volume for best results.
10. Calibrate the spray equipment and use the proper nozzles to achieve the best coverage and reduce drift. Periodically check to ensure that the sprayer is still calibrated throughout the spraying season. The majority of sprayers over apply by 10 to 30% due to poor calibration and worn tips.

Thomas N. Jordan, Assistant Director of Agriculture and Natural Resources of Purdue University Cooperative Services.

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