



# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 27

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Rain halted fieldwork in most areas of the state last week. Isolated areas received heavy showers and ponding is evident in low lying areas of some fields. Recent precipitation has helped replenish both topsoil and subsoil moisture. Armyworms continue to be a problem in some crops and pastures. Farmers should continue to monitor fields to determine if spraying is necessary. Emergence has been slow in some soybean fields.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 1.7 **days** suitable for fieldwork. Virtually all intended corn acreage has emerged compared with 90 percent a year ago. Corn **condition** is rated 72 percent good to excellent compared with 81 percent last year at this time. Ninety-six percent of the **soybean** acreage is planted compared with 85 percent a year ago and 66 percent for the average. By area, 98 percent of the soybean acreage is planted in the north, 98 percent in the central regions and 89 percent in the south. Eighty-eight percent of the intended soybean acreage has **emerged** compared with 66 percent last year. Other activities during the week included spraying, applying anhydrous ammonia, cleaning and repairing equipment, chopping forage, mowing roads and hauling manure.

Virtually all the winter wheat has **headed** compared with 97 percent last year and 77 percent for the average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 65 percent good to excellent compared with 82 percent a year ago at this time.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

**Pasture condition** is rated 6 percent excellent, 43 percent good, 27 percent fair, 15 percent poor and 9 percent very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Transplanting of **tobacco** is 31 percent complete compared with 25 percent for the average. First cutting of **alfalfa** hay is 30 percent complete compared with 25 percent for the 5-year average.

### CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Emerged	100	95	90	NA
Soybeans Planted	96	94	85	66
Soybeans Emerged	88	70	66	NA
Winter Wheat Headed	100	88	97	77
Tobacco Plants Set	31	26	36	25
Alfalfa First Cutting	30	NA	27	25

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	1	5	22	58	14
Soybeans	2	6	28	56	8
Pasture	9	15	27	43	6
Winter Wheat 2001	4	7	24	57	8

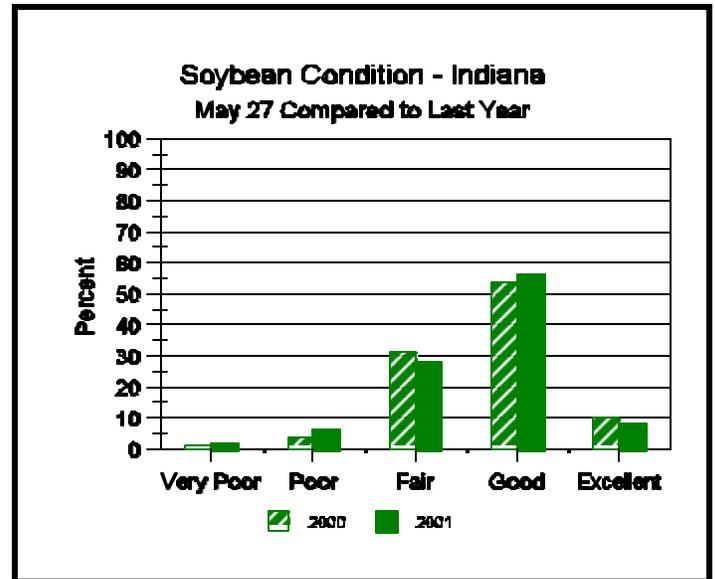
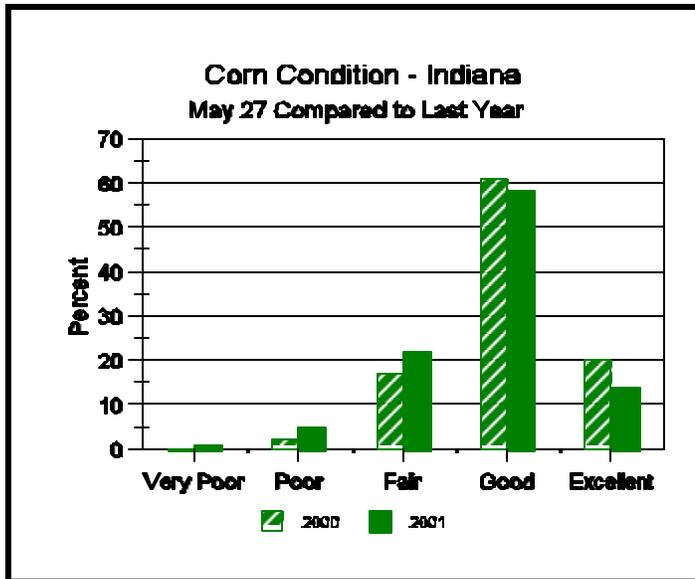
### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	2	13	1
Short	9	18	8
Adequate	65	58	78
Surplus	24	11	13
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	7	16	9
Short	23	31	34
Adequate	64	49	52
Surplus	6	4	5
<b>Days Suitable</b>	1.7	4.3	4.0

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Crop Progress



### Other Agricultural Comments And News

#### **Amyworms March On; Farmers May Apply For Assistance**

Armyworms continue to march and destroy Indiana cropland and pastures. Hoosier farmers with damaged acres may be eligible for disaster assistance through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA), but they must apply soon. The 2001 Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program may cover armyworm damage, said Doug Hovermale, FSA program specialist. Details are still being worked out, he said. "Producers who have possible damage to non-insured crops are encouraged to file a notice of loss — form CCC-576 — to protect any possible future benefits," Hovermale said. "This must be done within 15 days of the disaster event or the date loss becomes apparent." Farmers may obtain the form at their county FSA office. Coverage takes effect 30 days after the application is submitted. Benefits are based on 50 percent of a county's established yield or the producer's actual production history — if established with the county FSA office — and 55 percent of the county's established price for the affected crop.

Armyworm larvae are feeding in southwest and west central Indiana counties. The pests also have been spotted in portions of northern and northeast Indiana, said John Obermeyer, a Purdue University entomologist.

inches long, consume emerging corn, wheat, rye and other tall growing grasses. Obermeyer said he's seen fields and pastures "denuded" by the hungry pests.

"This is definitely a serious infestation," Obermeyer said. "Some farmers are comparing it with an infestation going back to the early 1970s. I've heard others say they haven't seen it like this since the 1950s."

Keith Johnson, Purdue Cooperative Extension Service Forage Specialist, said he was amazed at armyworm damage he'd encountered in southern Indiana in the past few days. "I was actually able to hear the larvae chew their supper," Johnson said. "I hope that I never see or hear such a sight again." Farmers should inspect their fields for armyworm activity and take decisive action, Obermeyer said. Before applying pesticides, check product labels for harvest and livestock grazing restrictions, Obermeyer said.

Fescue and orchardgrass fields will recover from armyworm feeding, Johnson said. Under normal growing conditions, grasses should be ready for livestock grazing or hay mowing within six weeks, he said.

The worms, which range from a quarter-inch to 1.25

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# Weather Information Table

**Week ending Sunday May 27, 2001**

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2001 thru May 27, 2001				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
							Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
<b>Northwest (1)</b>												
Valparaiso_Ag	72	43	56	-8	2.58	7		7.71	+0.41	31	561	+206
Wanatah	78	44	58	-5	1.46	6	62	6.81	-0.16	32	539	+229
Wheatfield	77	44	57	-6	1.80	7		6.89	+0.12	33	593	+259
Winamac	76	46	58	-6	1.62	6	62	8.21	+1.49	31	609	+231
<b>North Central(2)</b>												
Logansport	76	47	58	-7	1.43	6		7.67	+0.96	30	579	+205
Plymouth	76	43	55	-9	2.12	6		6.81	-0.33	31	530	+132
South_Bend	76	44	57	-6	1.19	6		7.40	+0.81	29	577	+242
Young_America	78	45	58	-6	1.08	6		6.12	-0.59	26	649	+275
<b>Northeast (3)</b>												
Bluffton	75	47	58	-7	1.30	5	62	8.17	+1.38	30	594	+206
Fort_Wayne	76	46	59	-5	1.40	7		6.12	-0.23	32	586	+233
<b>West Central (4)</b>												
Crawfordsville	79	41	57	-8	1.61	7	64	5.05	-2.57	26	602	+153
Perrysville	78	43	58	-7	0.71	6	64	4.44	-2.94	26	698	+279
Terre_Haute_Ag	84	42	60	-6	0.92	6	66	9.43	+1.59	26	778	+304
W_Lafayette_6NW	78	44	58	-7	1.17	6	60	5.70	-1.42	25	664	+284
<b>Central (5)</b>												
Castleton	78	46	58	-8	2.33	5		8.02	+0.38	25	673	+230
Greenfield	78	44	58	-8	2.22	6		6.94	-0.87	25	671	+252
Greensburg	77	47	60	-5	1.62	6		8.28	-0.01	22	730	+300
Indianapolis_AP	78	46	59	-7	1.26	5		5.76	-1.45	20	746	+283
Indianapolis_SE	79	39	57	-9	1.66	5		5.69	-1.95	19	659	+216
Tipton_Ag	78	45	57	-7	0.59	5	62	6.62	-0.62	22	577	+234
<b>East Central (6)</b>												
Farmland	78	43	58	-5	1.83	5	60	8.85	+2.00	25	584	+252
New_Castle	76	43	56	-8	2.58	5		10.11	+2.18	27	520	+179
<b>Southwest (7)</b>												
Dubois_Ag	80	46	60	-6	1.77	7	67	5.25	-3.15	19	798	+294
Evansville	79	45	63	-6	1.69	7		4.88	-3.33	20	889	+274
Freelandville	79	48	60	-7	1.25	6		4.61	-3.70	22	796	+294
Shoals	79	45	60	-7	1.54	7		5.49	-3.24	20	745	+260
Vincennes_5NE	81	45	60	-7	1.35	7	64	3.64	-4.67	19	828	+326
<b>South Central(8)</b>												
Bloomington	79	46	59	-7	1.85	7		5.28	-2.83	23	755	+262
Tell_City	79	48	63	-5	2.00	6		4.33	-4.70	14	857	+288
<b>Southeast (9)</b>												
Scottsburg	79	46	60	-6	1.90	7		6.81	-1.30	22	782	+276

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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Sowing sorghum-sudangrass into damaged fields should not be done, Johnson said. "I am not in favor of no-tilling any annual crops into pasture or hay fields that were good stands before the armyworm invasion," Johnson said. "Grass regrowth will be competitive with the young seedlings. I doubt that the farmer recoups the cost of seed and time in no-tilling annuals into the perennial grass pasture or hay fields."

Clipping stems can provide even and vigorous grass regrowth and reduce eye irritation to livestock, Johnson said.

For more information on armyworms and control options, read Purdue Extension Publication E-57, "Armyworm and Fall Armyworm," by Obermeyer and Purdue entomologists Rich Edwards and Larry Bledsoe. The publication is available through county Extension offices or may be downloaded online at <<http://www.agcom.purdue.edu/AgCom/Pubs/pdflinks/E-57/html>>.

Steve Leer, Agricultural Communications, Purdue University.

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