



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural
Statistics Service

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 21

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Hot, humid weather returned during the week placing stress on corn and soybean crops in most areas of the state, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Some areas received rain, but it was very spotty and scattered. Farmers are concerned about their crops from the recent heat and lack of precipitation. Rain is needed in most areas of the state as corn enters the critical stage of pollination and soybeans reach the podding stage. The most critical areas for soil moisture deficiency is reported in the north central, northeast and east central regions of the state.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.5 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Corn **condition** declined and is rated 36 percent good to excellent compared with 48 percent last week and 72 percent last year at this time. Twenty-eight percent of the corn acreage has **silked** compared with 81 percent last year and 62 percent for the 5-year average. Soybean **condition** also declined and is rated 39 percent good to excellent compared with 51 percent last week and 67 percent a year earlier. Thirty-seven percent of the soybean acreage is **blooming** compared with 77 percent last year and 68 percent for the 5-year average. Nine percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 28 percent last year and 20 percent for the average.

Winter wheat **harvest** is 99 percent complete compared with 99 percent last year and 95 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 98 percent of the wheat acreage is harvested in the north and nearly all of the wheat is harvested in the central and southern regions of the state.

Other activities during the week included harvesting mint, baling hay and straw, spraying for weed control, mowing roadsides, scouting fields, cleaning grain bins, attending county fairs and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 1 percent excellent, 24 percent good, 44 percent fair, 21 percent poor and 10 percent very poor. Pastures are deteriorating rapidly in many areas of the state. Second cutting of **alfalfa** hay is 74 percent complete compared with 90 percent last year and 78 percent for the average. Feeding of hay is necessary on some farms. Livestock are under stress from the hot weather.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Year |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| | | | | Avg |
| Percent | | | | |
| Corn Silked | 28 | 9 | 81 | 62 |
| Soybeans Blooming | 37 | 22 | 77 | 68 |
| Soybeans Podding | 9 | 3 | 28 | 20 |
| Winter Wheat Harvested | 99 | 91 | 99 | 95 |
| Alfalfa Second Cutting | 74 | 52 | 90 | 78 |

CROP CONDITION TABLE

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excel- |
|---------|-----------|------|------|------|--------|
| | | | | | lent |
| Percent | | | | | |
| Corn | 9 | 18 | 37 | 32 | 4 |
| Soybean | 7 | 17 | 37 | 35 | 4 |
| Pasture | 10 | 21 | 44 | 24 | 1 |

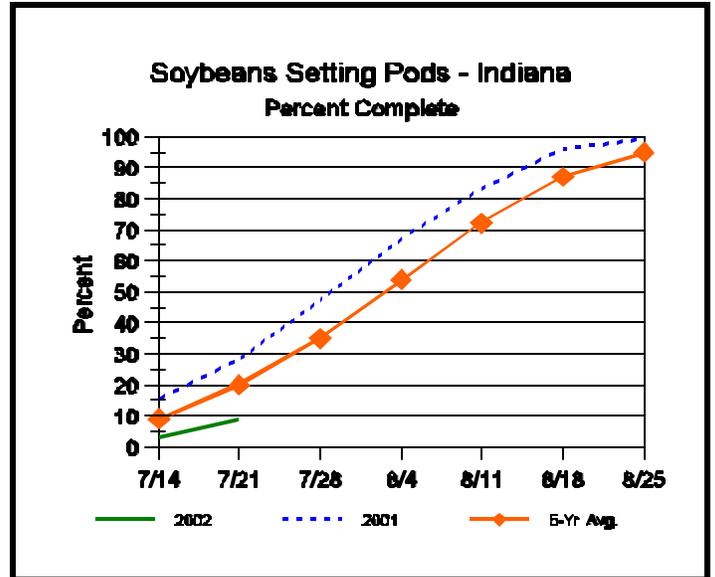
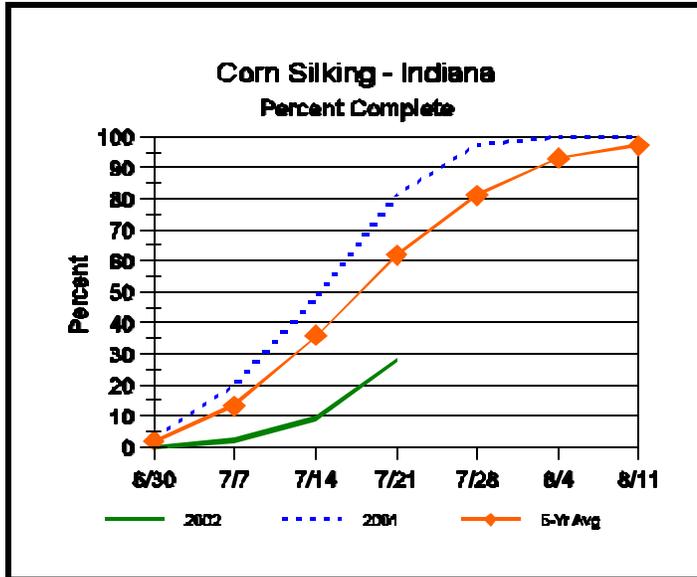
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | Percent |
| Topsoil | | | |
| Very Short | 28 | 18 | 8 |
| Short | 44 | 41 | 23 |
| Adequate | 27 | 40 | 55 |
| Surplus | 1 | 1 | 14 |
| Subsoil | | | |
| Very Short | 20 | 11 | 9 |
| Short | 39 | 36 | 25 |
| Adequate | 40 | 51 | 58 |
| Surplus | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| Days Suitable | 6.5 | 6.1 | 5.4 |

CONTACT INFORMATION

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 --Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician
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<http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm>

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Stressed Corn, Pollination, and Rootworm Beetles

- Large numbers of rootworm beetles being reported in corn
- Stressed corn and spotty pollination are making treatment decisions difficult
- Length of silks and amount of pollen yet to fall is the key to fertilization

Several calls have been received this week concerning the large numbers of western corn rootworm beetles in cornfields. Many plants within these fields are being discovered with damaged roots from larval damage. This combined with present dry conditions and soil that was compacted this spring is resulting in severely stressed plants. Treatment decisions have been very difficult as the beetles flock to the actively pollinating plants occurring in spots within a field.

When fields are pollinating evenly, control may be necessary if the silks are clipped off to within 1/2 inch or less of the tip of the ear before 50% pollination is completed. Don't judge the need for treatment on beetle numbers ... SILK DAMAGE ONLY.. Producers have noted the beetles all over the plants, not necessarily feeding on the silks. Many beetles are in the corn whorls before tassels emerge, they are doing some insignificant but "showy" leaf feeding. As the tassels emerge, beetles may be seen feeding on the anthers and pollen. Pollen is their favorite food. Just as

back in 1988, tremendous beetle numbers are being reported, but silks have very little damage. Plants under drought stress will often have the pollen shed and silking out of synchrony. Controlling beetles will only protect the silks yet viable to receive pollen, make certain that over half of the pollen hasn't already been shed.

Consider:

- Pollen is the rootworm beetles favorite food
- More than enough pollen is shed to fertilize ears and feed beetles
- Silks a 1/2 inch or longer can successfully receive pollen
- Silks can receive the pollen anywhere, not just the tip

The tough, but realistic, question is if the field is worth another \$15.00 investment (7-8 bushels of corn)? For recommended control materials refer to Extension Publication E-219-W, *Corn Insect Control Recommendations-2002* (Revised 1/2002). Download a copy at, <<http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/targets/e-series/fieldcro.htm>>.

John Obermeyer, Rich Edwards, and Larry Bledsoe, Department of Entomology, Purdue University.

(Additional Article on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday July 21, 2002

| Station | Past Week Weather Summary Data | | | | | | | Accumulation | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----|-----|-----|---------|------|-----------|----------------------------------|--------|------|---------------|------|
| | Air Temperature | | | | Precip. | | Avg | April 1, 2002 thru July 21, 2002 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 4 in | Precipitation | | | GDD Base 50°F | |
| | Hi | Lo | Avg | DFN | Total | Days | Soil Temp | Total | DFN | Days | Total | DFN |
| Northwest (1) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chalmers_5W | 93 | 58 | 77 | +3 | 0.83 | 1 | | 12.58 | -1.32 | 44 | 1672 | +31 |
| Valparaiso_AP_I | 90 | 59 | 77 | +5 | 0.35 | 1 | | 13.42 | -1.41 | 40 | 1648 | +185 |
| Wanatah | 93 | 56 | 76 | +5 | 1.26 | 3 | 84 | 14.05 | -0.26 | 45 | 1569 | +172 |
| Wheatfield | 91 | 56 | 77 | +4 | 0.29 | 1 | | 12.41 | -1.62 | 35 | 1607 | +169 |
| Winamac | 90 | 60 | 77 | +5 | 0.76 | 1 | 83 | 12.62 | -1.43 | 43 | 1598 | +99 |
| North Central(2) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plymouth | 91 | 56 | 76 | +3 | 0.17 | 2 | | 13.68 | -1.05 | 45 | 1519 | -44 |
| South_Bend | 90 | 61 | 78 | +6 | 0.00 | 0 | | 11.62 | -2.15 | 41 | 1594 | +148 |
| Young_America | 91 | 57 | 76 | +3 | 0.00 | 0 | | 13.32 | -0.18 | 39 | 1682 | +153 |
| Northeast (3) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Columbia_City | 91 | 54 | 75 | +4 | 0.00 | 0 | 83 | 11.55 | -2.31 | 41 | 1482 | +103 |
| Fort_Wayne | 90 | 59 | 77 | +4 | 0.35 | 1 | | 13.70 | +0.94 | 39 | 1655 | +136 |
| West Central (4) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Greencastle | 89 | 57 | 74 | -3 | 0.18 | 2 | | 21.07 | +5.34 | 42 | 1613 | -127 |
| Perrysville | 91 | 56 | 77 | +3 | 0.21 | 2 | 81 | 17.70 | +2.51 | 43 | 1742 | +112 |
| Spencer_Ag | 90 | 60 | 76 | +2 | 1.48 | 3 | | 22.98 | +6.80 | 47 | 1713 | +86 |
| Terre_Haute_AFB | 90 | 60 | 77 | +2 | 1.84 | 3 | | 27.07 | +11.77 | 45 | 1901 | +163 |
| W_Lafayette_6NW | 92 | 58 | 76 | +3 | 0.05 | 1 | 83 | 18.03 | +4.07 | 49 | 1718 | +185 |
| Central (5) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eagle_Creek_AP | 91 | 63 | 78 | +3 | 0.20 | 3 | | 18.19 | +3.97 | 47 | 1845 | +124 |
| Greenfield | 90 | 60 | 76 | +1 | 4.45 | 3 | | 25.78 | +10.33 | 49 | 1738 | +101 |
| Indianapolis_AP | 90 | 61 | 77 | +2 | 0.45 | 2 | | 17.33 | +3.11 | 41 | 1904 | +183 |
| Indianapolis_SE | 90 | 57 | 76 | +1 | 1.32 | 3 | | 20.96 | +6.25 | 42 | 1734 | +36 |
| Tipton_Ag | 90 | 57 | 75 | +2 | 0.40 | 1 | 81 | 14.77 | +0.73 | 40 | 1596 | +115 |
| East Central (6) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Farmland | 90 | 60 | 77 | +4 | 0.49 | 3 | | 14.19 | +0.13 | 47 | 1664 | +227 |
| New_Castle | 87 | 58 | 73 | -1 | 0.50 | 2 | | 17.76 | +2.39 | 37 | 1447 | -24 |
| Southwest (7) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Evansville | 92 | 65 | 80 | +2 | 0.12 | 3 | | 17.65 | +2.62 | 38 | 2221 | +186 |
| Freelandville | 91 | 65 | 78 | +2 | 0.43 | 2 | | 19.92 | +4.41 | 36 | 1988 | +185 |
| Shoals | 94 | 63 | 78 | +3 | 0.06 | 1 | | 19.63 | +2.91 | 36 | 1885 | +157 |
| Stendal | 94 | 66 | 80 | +3 | 0.11 | 2 | | 20.37 | +3.68 | 37 | 2067 | +169 |
| Vincennes_5NE | 93 | 63 | 79 | +4 | 0.54 | 3 | 81 | 20.05 | +4.54 | 39 | 2042 | +239 |
| South Central(8) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Leavenworth | 91 | 62 | 77 | +2 | 0.23 | 2 | | 18.42 | +1.53 | 35 | 1973 | +247 |
| Oolitic | 91 | 61 | 77 | +3 | 0.02 | 1 | 78 | 22.72 | +6.88 | 44 | 1817 | +174 |
| Tell_City | 92 | 66 | 80 | +3 | 0.48 | 2 | | 18.30 | +1.45 | 28 | 2306 | +386 |
| Southeast (9) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brookville | 94 | 62 | 78 | +4 | 0.09 | 2 | | 18.18 | +3.01 | 38 | 1841 | +298 |
| Milan_5NE | 88 | 59 | 74 | -2 | 0.43 | 3 | | 23.99 | +8.82 | 47 | 1574 | +31 |
| Scottsburg | 90 | 60 | 76 | -1 | 0.20 | 3 | | 20.28 | +4.64 | 42 | 1850 | +64 |

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

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

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

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Soybean Sudden Death Syndrome

- The time is approaching for SDS to appear

Sudden death syndrome (SDS) was widespread in Indiana during 1998 and 2000, and common across central Indiana last year. A soilborne fungus, *Fusarium solani* f. sp. *glycines*, causes SDS, so soybean fields where the disease occurred in recent years are at risk this year.

It is difficult to predict whether SDS will in fact be a widespread problem this year. One factor that works against an epidemic is the late planting of most of the Indiana's soybean crop. In the outbreaks of the past few years, severe SDS was associated with early planting. However, the unusually cool spring this year may have counteracted that generality to some extent.

SDS normally first appears in late July to early August. Heavy rain during early reproductive stages of soybeans seems to be critical for development of foliar

symptoms of SDS. Leaf tissue between the major veins turns yellow, then brown. Soon, the leaflets die, shrivel, and often drop off, leaving the petioles (leaf stalks) attached. Brown stem rot may cause similar foliar symptoms, but the leaflets tend to remain attached to the petioles. To help distinguish between these diseases, split the lower stem and taproot. Plants with SDS will have a dark cortex, but white pith. With brown stem rot, the pith is often dark, but the cortex is normal.

A soybean specimen was received this week in the Plant and Pest Diagnostic Laboratory, from southern Indiana. It had lower stem symptoms suggestive of both SDS and brown stem rot. None of these plants showed interveinal necrosis on upper leaves, but the plants were only in the V6 to V7 stage of growth. Now is the time to start scouting fields for SDS and brown stem rot.

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