



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural
Statistics Service

1435 Win Hentschel Blvd.
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 28

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Major crops continued to suffer during most of the week from the heat and lack of precipitation. Rain fell in some portions of the state, but many areas received none or very little precipitation during the week, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn and soybeans are under severe stress in many areas around the state. Many fields of corn entered into the critical stage of pollination last week. There is significant variation of pollination with portions of fields silking and other areas in the field not yet tasseled. Hay crops and pastures are also hurting from the heat and dry weather. The most critical areas for soil moisture deficiency remain in the north central, northeast and east central regions of the state.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.4 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Corn **condition** declined and is rated 31 percent good to excellent compared with 36 percent last week and 79 percent last year at this time. Sixty-six percent of the corn acreage has **silked** compared with 97 percent last year and 81 percent for the 5-year average. Soybean **condition** also declined and is rated 35 percent good to excellent compared with 39 percent last week and 72 percent a year earlier. Fifty-eight percent of the soybean acreage is **blooming** compared with 92 percent last year and 82 percent for the 5-year average. Sixteen percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 47 percent last year and 35 percent for the average.

Winter wheat **harvest** is virtually complete compared with 100 percent last year and 98 percent for the 5-year average.

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

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 2 percent excellent, 19 percent good, 39 percent fair, 27 percent poor and 13 percent very poor. Pastures are drying up in many areas of the state. Second cutting of **alfalfa** hay is 88 percent complete compared with 97 percent last year and 87 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	66	28	97	81
Corn in Dough	7	2	24	19
Soybeans Blooming	58	37	92	82
Soybeans Podding	16	9	47	35
Alfalfa Second Cutting	88	74	97	87

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	10	22	37	28	3
Soybean	8	19	38	31	4
Pasture	13	27	39	19	2

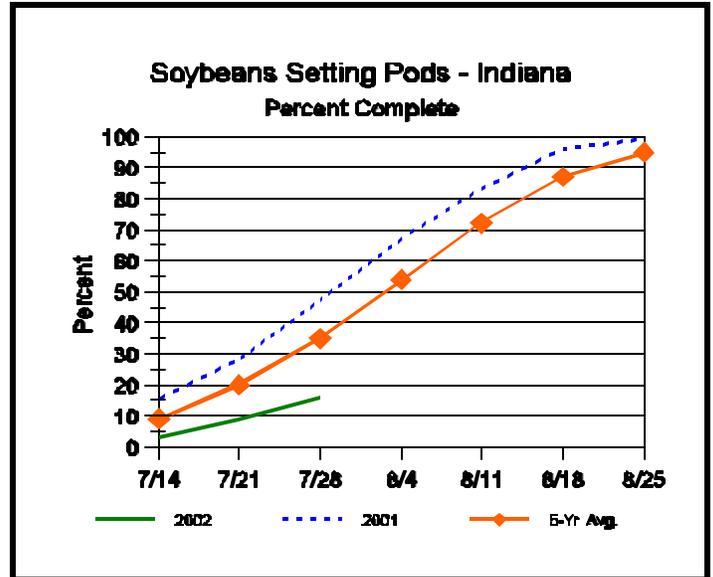
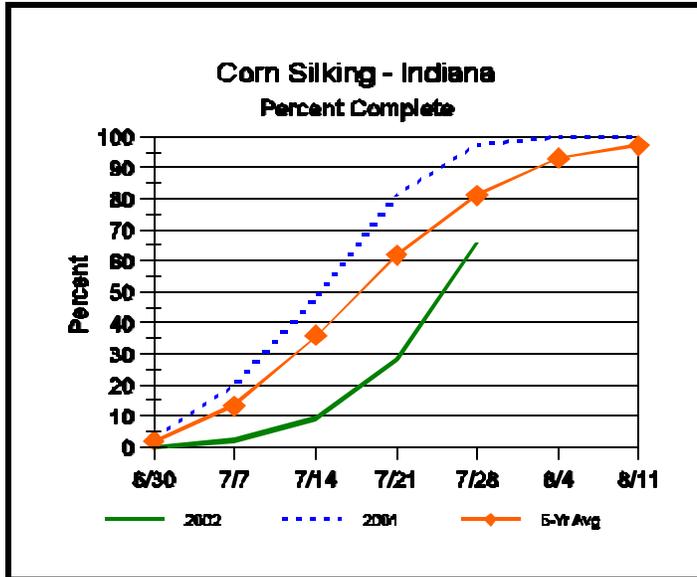
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	31	28	3
Short	42	44	16
Adequate	26	27	67
Surplus	1	1	14
Subsoil			
Very Short	25	20	4
Short	40	39	22
Adequate	34	40	66
Surplus	1	1	8
Days Suitable	6.4	6.5	4.4

CONTACT INFORMATION

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<http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm>

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

A Follow-Up on Nematodes Damaging Corn and Soybean

As we predicted back in May, this was a bad year for Needle Nematode in corn. The good news is that the damage is done and we no longer find this nematode. When the soil temperature rises, this nematode simply disappears and we are no longer able to extract it from the soil. Damaged corn, for most part, will start to recover, even though some yield loss should be expected.

The story for soybean is completely opposite. The Soybean Cyst Nematodes (SCN) are thriving and the first generation of this nematode has matured and the second generation is underway. This time of the year is the best time to observe the white and yellow SCN females on the roots. The best way to observe this nematode is to dig the whole plant root system with the soil ball around it. Dip the soil ball into a bucket of water and gently shake the soil away from the roots. The white or yellow SCN females should be visible on the roots and can be observed with the naked eye. They are the size of a grain of sugar. Recognition of this nematode in a timely fashion is extremely important. The yellow stunted

patches of soybean, a typical SCN symptom, might not always be present in the soybean field although the damaging nematodes are present. Thus, we recommend close observation of soybean roots by every soybean grower despite lack of the presence of typical symptoms. The Indiana Soybean Board is continuing to cover the cost of soil analysis for SCN (up to 10 samples/grower/year).

If you have questions about these, or any other kinds of nematodes, you can call us at 765/494-4611. If you are uncertain about whether plant parasitic nematodes are the cause of some type of unsatisfactory crop growth, you might consider sending a soil sample to us at: Nematology Laboratory, 1158 Smith Hall, Department of Entomology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1158. Department of Entomology, Purdue University.

Jamal Faghihi and Virginia Ferris, Department of Entomology, Purdue University.

(Additional Article on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday July 28, 2002

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 2002 thru July 28, 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	96	57	76	+2	0.72	3		13.30	-1.51	47	1855	+46
Valparaiso_AP_I	95	57	77	+5	0.48	4		13.90	-1.78	44	1840	+216
Wanatah	96	56	76	+4	0.98	4	82	15.03	-0.19	49	1750	+199
Wheatfield	96	58	76	+4	2.44	3		14.85	-0.02	38	1792	+194
Winamac	94	59	77	+5	0.59	2	81	13.21	-1.68	45	1787	+127
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	96	57	77	+3	0.38	4		14.06	-1.54	49	1706	-25
South_Bend	96	57	78	+6	0.51	4		12.13	-2.48	45	1792	+185
Young_America	95	58	77	+4	2.44	3		15.76	+1.42	42	1874	+178
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	94	56	77	+5	0.26	4	81	11.81	-2.86	45	1671	+138
Fort_Wayne	94	57	77	+4	0.43	2		14.13	+0.60	41	1847	+160
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	93	58	76	+1	0.93	3		22.00	+5.08	45	1797	-124
Perrysville	96	61	78	+4	1.82	2	81	19.52	+3.35	45	1937	+139
Spencer_Ag	94	60	77	+3	1.77	3		24.75	+7.44	50	1905	+103
Terre_Haute_AFB	94	61	79	+4	1.25	2		28.32	+11.92	47	2103	+185
W_Lafayette_6NW	96	58	77	+5	1.48	3	81	19.51	+4.64	52	1909	+213
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	94	60	78	+4	0.45	3		18.64	+3.40	50	2045	+146
Greenfield	92	60	77	+3	0.11	2		25.89	+9.20	51	1928	+116
Indianapolis_AP	94	63	79	+4	0.20	3		17.53	+2.29	44	2111	+212
Indianapolis_SE	93	57	77	+2	0.24	2		21.20	+5.36	44	1925	+46
Tipton_Ag	94	57	75	+3	0.70	3	81	15.47	+0.45	43	1775	+133
East Central (6)												
Farmland	95	57	77	+5	0.74	3	77	14.45	-0.45	48	1848	+250
New_Castle	90	56	74	+1	0.05	1		17.81	+1.46	38	1614	-18
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	94	66	81	+3	0.63	1		18.28	+2.34	39	2440	+208
Freelandville	96	65	80	+4	0.44	2		20.36	+3.87	38	2198	+213
Shoals	97	61	79	+5	0.08	1		19.71	+1.88	37	2091	+183
Stendal	96	65	80	+4	0.15	3		20.52	+2.88	40	2280	+193
Vincennes_5NE	96	64	80	+5	0.78	3	80	20.83	+4.34	42	2254	+269
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	93	64	79	+4	1.01	3		19.43	+1.42	38	2175	+272
Oolitic	96	60	79	+5	0.13	3	79	22.85	+5.96	47	2019	+201
Tell_City	96	66	82	+5	0.30	1		18.60	+0.70	29	2528	+412
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	96	59	78	+4	0.07	2		18.25	+2.01	40	2039	+328
Milan_5NE	91	58	76	+2	0.00	0		23.99	+7.75	47	1755	+44
Scottsburg	93	60	78	+2	0.48	3		20.76	+4.06	45	2047	+79

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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Brown Spot of Corn

- A leaf disease rarely seen on corn in Indiana has shown up near Princeton

Gail Ruhl and I diagnosed brown spot on a corn sample from southern Indiana submitted to the Plant and Pest Diagnostic Lab (PPDL) last week. Leaves of these plants had small, golden-brown spots. Over most of the affected leaf tissue, the spots had coalesced to form large patches of dead tissue. Symptoms were most severe on the apical half of the leaf. The patches of dead tissue tended to occur in bands across the leaf with more or less healthy tissue in between. We also observed strings of black circular lesions near the midrib. It was in this tissue that Gail was able to find sporangia of the brown spot fungus, *Physoderma maydis*.

Although the disease is reported to occur in the Midwest, we have rarely seen it in the PPDL. Brown spot is more common in tropical areas, where there are long periods of moisture and high temperatures. Reduced tillage also favors the disease, because the

sporangia produced by the fungus in infected plants survive in crop residue.

Zoospores released by the sporangia are most likely to infect meristematic leaf tissue down in the whorl. Infection occurs in a diurnal pattern because light, free water, and appropriate temperatures are all required. This may be why the lesions tend to occur in bands.

Corn is reported to be most vulnerable for 50-60 days after seed germination. The combination of late planting and the abrupt switch to high temperatures when a lot of corn was still in the seedling stage may have created the right conditions for infection.

The brown spot fungus, *Physoderma maydis*, is in the same broad group of fungi that includes the downy mildews, *Phytophthora*, and *Pythium*.

Gregory Shaner, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University. This article also contains color pictures, which can be viewed at: http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/targets/p&c/P&C2002/P&C19_2002.pdf, pgs. 5 & 6.

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