



# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural  
Statistics Service

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 17

# Final 2002 Report



### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Most of the corn and soybean fields have now been harvested in the central and northern regions of the state, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. However, scattered fields of both corn and soybeans remain for harvest, especially in the south central and southeastern areas of the state. Precipitation, wet soils and poor drying conditions have slowed harvest recently in most areas of the state. Corn harvest is on par with the average and ahead of last year's pace. Many farmers were applying NH3 during the week. Fall tillage continued to make good progress. Cleaning up and repairing equipment, drying and selling grain, attending FSA offices, spreading fertilizer and lime and taking care of livestock were other major activities taking place last week.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 4.0 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Ninety-six percent of the corn acreage is **harvested** compared with 93 percent last year and 96 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 96 percent of the corn acreage is harvested in the north, 96 percent in the central regions and 95 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging about 17 percent.

Ninety-eight percent of the soybean acreage is **harvested** compared with 99 percent last year and 99 percent for the average. By area, 99 percent of the soybean acreage is harvested in the north, 99 percent in the central regions and 94 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging about 12.5 percent.

Ninety-nine percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is seeded compared with 100 percent for both last year and the 5-year average. Ninety-six percent of the winter wheat acreage has **emerged** compared with 92 percent last year and 94 percent for the average.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pastures are mostly in good shape heading into the winter period. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. **Hay** supplies are rated 13 percent very short, 37 percent short, 47 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus. Weaning and selling calves continued.

### CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Harvested	96	90	93	96
Soybeans Harvested	98	96	99	99
Winter Wheat Planted	99	98	100	100
Winter Wheat Emerged	96	90	92	94

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Winter Wheat	0	2	32	56	10

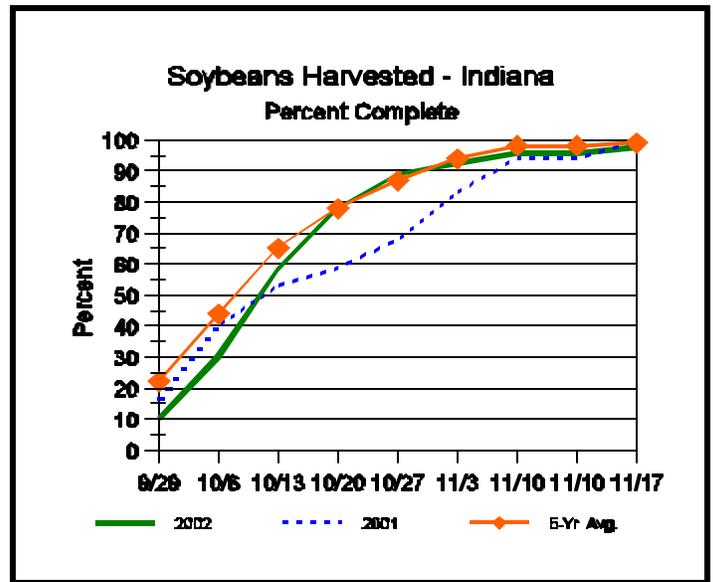
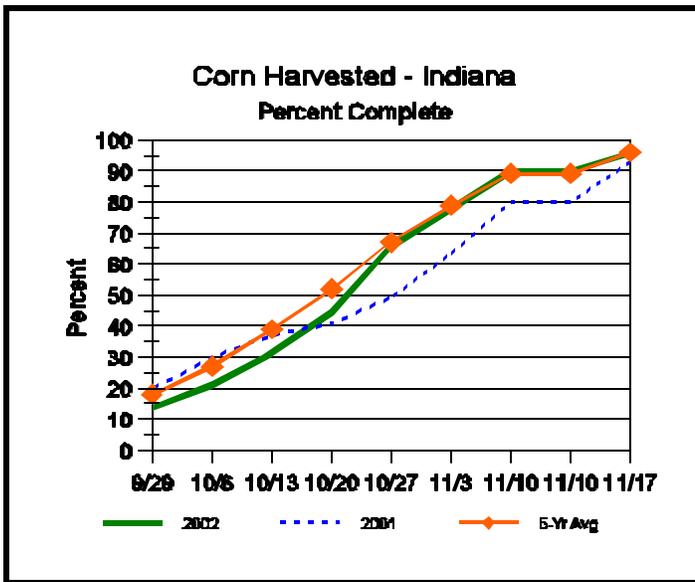
### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	3	4	1
Short	12	11	7
Adequate	66	67	80
Surplus	19	18	12
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	11	13	1
Short	26	27	10
Adequate	57	56	77
Surplus	6	4	12
<b>Days Suitable</b>	4.0	4.3	6.8

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Crop Progress



## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### **Ag Law Specialist: Now's the Time to Review Farmland Leases**

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Farmland owners and the producers who lease their land might want to examine their rental agreements in light of crop income and support payment changes within the 2002 Farm Bill.

Producers cannot receive government payments on rented land until they've submitted a valid lease to their local office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA), said Gerald Harrison, a Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service agricultural law specialist.

Although the deadline is April 1, 2003, for selecting base acre and yield options and reporting them to the FSA, landowners should now be evaluating program options so that any changes in leases can be made and tenants can begin planning for the next crop season, Harrison said. Landowners might need to gather production data on leased acres from previous crop years in order to make informed decisions.

"Many leases are reevaluated every calendar year," Harrison said. "This year we have some special information to look at in the new farm bill. There may be some differences between the landlord and tenant on what the rent ought to be in the future, and that may take some time to evaluate with respect to the data on a given farm. The program data will vary by farm.

"Many landowners will need help finding that data. They may be hard-pressed to come up with data from prior years, particularly if they're cash renting and only the current or former tenant has that information."

Indiana law requires landlords to notify tenants of lease termination three months before leases expire. However, the law protects tenants from landlords who wish to break existing leases, Harrison said.

State law recognizes oral lease agreements as binding, although the law can be a bit fuzzy on lease termination notification, Harrison said.

With oral leases the law usually requires the three-month notification, based on the end of the crop year. The Indiana statute does not say when a crop year ends, although in most communities it is considered the end of February.

"Tenants and landlords have to be very careful about the notice situation and whether there is a right to, or a requirement for, a notice," Harrison said. "'Term leases' may not require a notice, whether the lease is oral or written. However, it's a good idea to give a notice, particularly from the management point of view. Producers, tenants and landlords need to know where they stand with their farm operations."

New farmland owners often are unaware of a tenant's rights, Harrison said.

"Disputes that come up every year in Indiana and, I'm sure, across the country, are that new farmland owners think they bought a farm free of the lease — or the farm goes into an estate and maybe the heirs don't want the current tenant," he said. "The fact of the matter is, a lease is good against a decedent's estate or a new owner, if indeed a tenant has a valid lease. Many times, particularly in oral leases, a tenant has a

(Continued on Page 4)

# Weather Information Table

**Week ending Sunday November 17, 2002**

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature			Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	April 1, 2002 thru November 17, 2002					
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total		Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
<b>Northwest (1)</b>												
Chalmers_5W	68	28	41	-3	0.31	3		21.41	-4.88	83	3366	+139
Valparaiso_AP_I	65	24	41	-2	0.23	2		20.81	-8.33	80	3385	+434
Wanatah	65	19	39	-3	0.23	2	46	21.42	-6.38	89	3176	+382
Wheatfield	67	26	40	-1	0.15	1		25.71	-0.78	68	3241	+393
Winamac	66	26	39	-2	0.19	4	44	24.06	-2.73	83	3292	+352
<b>North Central(2)</b>												
Plymouth	69	24	40	-3	0.24	2		21.96	-5.67	84	3160	+59
South_Bend	67	21	41	-1	0.19	2		18.72	-8.45	78	3363	+458
Young_America	68	29	41	-2	1.33	3		26.53	+0.25	72	3407	+369
<b>Northeast (3)</b>												
Columbia_City	64	26	39	-2	0.67	3	42	22.94	-3.27	76	3100	+331
Fort_Wayne	65	28	41	-1	0.85	3		24.19	+0.28	71	3381	+327
<b>West Central (4)</b>												
Greencastle	68	29	42	-3	0.76	2		35.95	+5.83	79	3301	-172
Perrysville	67	27	42	-2	0.62	3	48	32.94	+5.03	80	3484	+271
Spencer_Ag	68	29	42	-2	1.04	2		38.21	+8.10	80	3560	+323
Terre_Haute_AFB	69	27	43	-1	0.20	2		36.55	+8.11	75	3804	+357
W_Lafayette_6NW	67	28	41	-2	0.51	3	45	28.85	+2.40	86	3437	+398
<b>Central (5)</b>												
Eagle_Creek_AP	69	31	44	+0	1.19	2		29.47	+2.90	81	3812	+403
Greenfield	69	30	43	+0	0.74	2		36.86	+7.70	81	3574	+302
Indianapolis_AP	70	31	44	+0	1.25	2		28.23	+1.66	72	3955	+546
Indianapolis_SE	69	30	42	-3	0.66	2		32.04	+4.70	74	3573	+169
Tipton_Ag	67	29	42	+0	0.88	3	51	26.68	-0.78	77	3288	+351
<b>East Central (6)</b>												
Farmland	69	29	43	+2	0.71	5	42	25.86	-0.22	77	3385	+522
New_Castle	63	30	42	+0	0.18	1		27.82	-0.24	67	3078	+141
<b>Southwest (7)</b>												
Evansville	76	29	47	+0	1.48	3		31.18	+3.89	71	4494	+508
Freelandville	73	28	45	-1	0.60	3		35.09	+6.90	70	4008	+440
Shoals	75	31	45	-2	0.80	3		32.31	+1.62	67	3879	+418
Stendal	75	28	45	-2	1.53	3		35.17	+4.92	69	4207	+470
Vincennes_5NE	75	28	45	+1	0.77	2	47	39.33	+11.14	81	4120	+552
<b>South Central(8)</b>												
Leavenworth	73	32	45	-2	0.94	3		34.51	+3.62	78	3999	+563
Oolitic	74	28	44	+1	0.65	3	51	35.28	+5.85	79	3773	+488
Tell_City	75	36	48	+1	1.28	3		36.18	+5.32	64	4564	+694
<b>Southeast (9)</b>												
Brookville	74	33	46	+3	1.60	2		30.62	+2.47	71	3875	+771
Milan_5NE	73	32	45	+2	1.24	2		38.00	+9.85	85	3487	+383
Scottsburg	74	31	45	-1	1.03	3		37.19	+8.18	75	3808	+258

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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## Ag Law Specialist: Now's the Time to Review Farmland Leases (Continued)

right to a termination notice, and December or January of a current crop year is probably too late for a timely notice."

Most farmland leases are in writing and are term leases, Harrison said. Term leases specify the beginning and end of the lease period. Usually, no termination notice is required since the ending date is in the lease.

But "you have to take a look at where you are in your own arrangements," Harrison said. "It may vary from farmer to farmer in terms of how you've got your lease set up."

Above all, Harrison recommends getting the lease on paper and consulting an attorney. Landlords also might need a farm manager's help to evaluate their land under the new farm bill and/or find the right rent or lease arrangement.

Additional information on farmland lease law is available in Purdue Extension publication EC-713, "Legal Aspects of Indiana Farmland Leases and Federal Tax Considerations," by Harrison. The publication can be downloaded online at: <http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/EC/EC-713.pdf>.

For more information on the 2002 Farm Bill, Indiana farmland values and cash rents, check out the June, August and September issues of the Purdue Agricultural Economics Report. The report is available online at: <http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/ext/paer/>

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### Related Web site:

Purdue University Department of Agricultural Economics

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