



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural
Statistics Service

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 11

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Rain and wet field conditions halted field activities during most of the week, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Thunderstorms and strong winds occurred in some areas during the week causing damage on some farms. Standing water exists in low lying areas of many fields and flooding is occurring along river bottom land. Soil moisture has improved from the recent showers in most areas of the state. Corn planting is 2 days ahead of average. Soybean planting is 5 days behind the average pace. Early emerged corn fields were looking good, but some replanting may now be necessary in drowned out areas.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were **.6 days suitable for fieldwork**. Fifty-eight percent of the intended **corn** acreage is planted compared with 11 percent last year and 54 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 68 percent of the corn acreage is planted in the north, 64 percent in the central region and 25 percent in the south. Thirty-two percent of the corn acreage has **emerged**, compared with 4 percent last year and 25 percent for the average. Twenty-one percent of the **soybean** acreage is planted compared with 3 percent last year and 31 percent for the average. By area, 30 percent of the soybean acreage is planted in the north, 23 percent in the central region and 3 percent in the south

Ninety-four percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed** compared with 99 percent last year and 99 percent for the 5-year average. Thirty-five percent of the winter wheat is **headed** compared with 35 percent last year and 40 percent for the average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 79 percent good to excellent compared with 62 percent last year at this time.

Major activities during the week were tillage of soils, spraying chemicals, repairing equipment, moving grain to market, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 15 percent excellent, 58 percent good, 21 percent fair, 5 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Pastures and forage crops continue to improve aided by the recent rain and warmer temperatures. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Spring calving remains active.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Corn Planted	58	50	11	54
Corn Emerged	32	11	4	25
Soybeans Planted	21	17	3	31
Winter Wheat Jointed	94	83	99	99
Winter Wheat Headed	35	8	35	40
Tobacco Plants Set	2	1	0	2

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	1	5	21	58	15
Winter Wheat 2003	1	3	17	55	24
Winter Wheat 2002	1	7	30	49	13

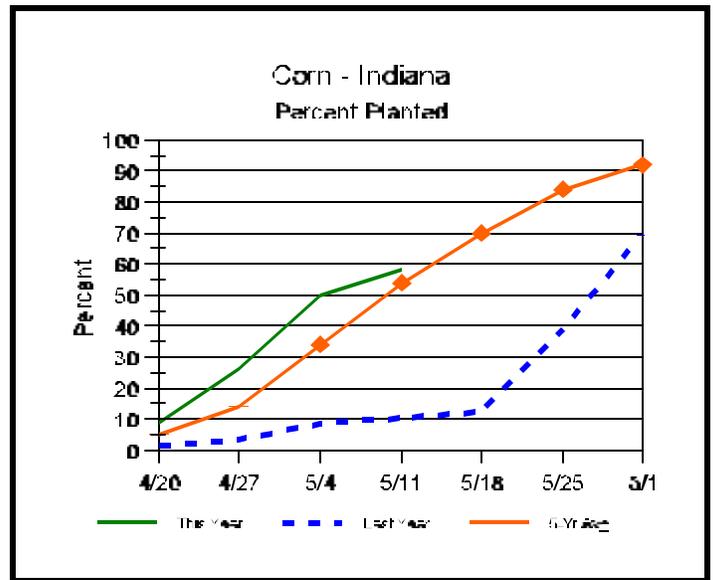
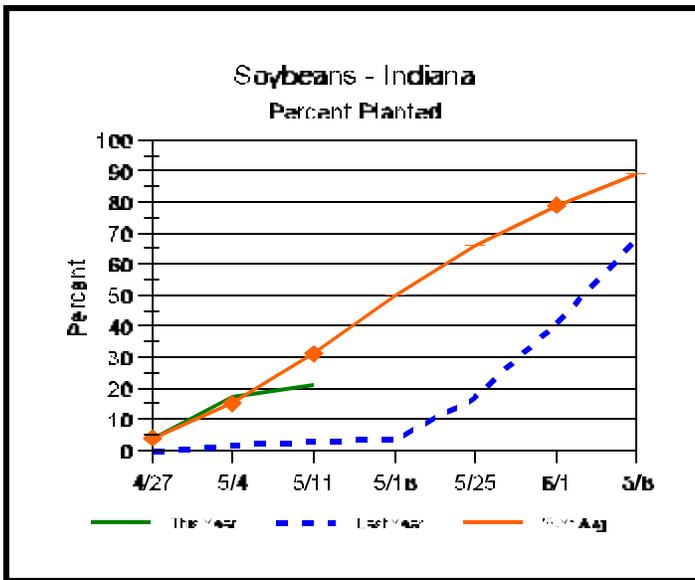
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	1	0
Short	1	6	0
Adequate	27	55	13
Surplus	72	38	87
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	6	0
Short	7	16	0
Adequate	56	61	27
Surplus	37	17	73
Days Suitable	0.6	3.6	1.0

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

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Herbicide Resistance Growing Like Weeds, Specialist Says

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - Farmers applying popular herbicides to their fields one day might receive an unwelcome chemical reaction: weeds ignoring the products altogether.

Scores of crop-damaging weeds are developing immunity to even the strongest herbicides in farmers' arsenals, said Bill Johnson, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service weed specialist. What's more, fewer chemical methods for controlling the undesired vegetation are being introduced to replace them.

It all adds up to trouble for producers, but all is not lost if farmers change some current practices, Johnson said.

"We are developing glyphosate-resistant weeds at a rate of about one new species per year over the last four years," he said.

"There are about 250 species of herbicide-resistant weeds in the world. The highest number is in areas where production row-crop agriculture is most intense and relies almost exclusively on herbicides for weed control. That would be North America, Australia and Europe."

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in Roundup, considered the king of herbicides. So dominant is Roundup that 83 percent of United States soybean

acres are expected to be planted to Roundup-tolerant varieties this year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Indiana farmers are projected to plant 91 percent of their soybean acres to Roundup Ready varieties.

Statewide, several weeds are demonstrating resistance to herbicide ingredients and brand-name products, Johnson said.

"In Indiana we have glyphosate-resistant marestail; jimsonweed resistant to atrazine; giant and common ragweed resistant to First Rate, pigweed resistant to Scepter, Classic and Pursuit; and lambsquarter resistant to atrazine."

Herbicide resistance in weeds started slowly in the 1970s and picked up steam in the early 1980s. Between 1990 and 2000 the number of confirmed herbicide-tolerant weeds worldwide jumped from about 125 to more than 240.

The rapid increase in weeds unaffected by herbicides was caused, in part, by the use of herbicides with identical control methods (known as modes-of-action - on both soybeans and corn, Johnson said. The same is now happening to herbicides with acetolactase synthase (ALS) inhibitors. ALS inhibitors kill weeds by preventing them from producing essential amino acids necessary for growth.

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday May 11, 2003

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation						
	Air							April 1, 2003 thru						
	Temperature			Precip.				4 in		Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN		
Northwest (1)														
Chalmers_5W	86	42	62	+4	4.37	6	60	8.81	+3.75	21	278	+59		
Valparaiso_AP_I	84	45	62	+5	4.24	5		8.01	+2.67	16	267	+100		
Wanatah	83	43	60	+5	4.40	5	63	8.61	+3.48	17	224	+87		
Wheatfield	86	47	62	+5	4.26	5		8.45	+3.44	15	270	+121		
Winamac	84	48	61	+3	3.34	5	60	6.24	+1.32	16	273	+93		
North Central(2)														
Plymouth	82	47	61	+3	2.84	5		6.68	+1.46	15	248	+56		
South_Bend	79	46	61	+5	3.63	5		7.69	+2.73	16	278	+125		
Young_America	85	50	63	+6	3.88	5		5.89	+1.10	19	302	+128		
Northeast (3)														
Columbia_City	79	47	62	+6	4.95	6	58	7.57	+2.72	19	244	+109		
Fort_Wayne	81	50	63	+6	4.34	6		7.52	+2.93	16	266	+103		
West Central (4)														
Greencastle	85	47	64	+4	4.29	6		6.95	+1.59	20	303	+58		
Perrysville	88	49	65	+7	3.34	5	62	6.48	+1.18	16	343	+136		
Spencer_Ag	83	47	65	+7	3.75	7		7.27	+1.56	19	342	+129		
Terre_Haute_AFB	85	51	66	+6	3.54	5		6.79	+1.28	17	363	+119		
W_Lafayette_6NW	87	47	64	+7	3.15	5	63	7.29	+2.15	20	326	+146		
Central (5)														
Eagle_Creek_AP	84	52	65	+6	4.20	5		6.57	+1.44	17	357	+124		
Greenfield	84	49	65	+7	4.57	6		7.88	+2.26	19	335	+135		
Indianapolis_AP	84	53	66	+7	3.73	5		6.73	+1.60	17	368	+135		
Indianapolis_SE	83	47	65	+6	3.59	6		6.71	+1.35	16	337	+120		
Tipton_Ag	84	45	63	+6	7.23	6	66	9.64	+4.32	15	261	+107		
East Central (6)														
Farmland	85	45	64	+8	3.57	5	61	5.60	+0.71	15	290	+143		
New_Castle	81	36	63	+6	3.57	6		5.19	-0.49	16	256	+104		
Southwest (7)														
Evansville	83	54	70	+8	3.40	6		7.47	+1.75	18	468	+122		
Freelandville	81	48	66	+6	6.40	7		10.07	+4.43	18	391	+126		
Shoals	83	47	66	+7	4.23	7		8.26	+2.33	16	397	+138		
Stendal	83	48	67	+6	4.16	6		8.74	+2.46	16	435	+135		
Vincennes_5NE	83	48	66	+6	4.68	7		8.19	+2.55	18	402	+137		
South Central(8)														
Leavenworth	82	46	67	+7	3.99	6		8.09	+1.78	20	409	+144		
Oolitic	83	45	66	+7	4.86	7	61	8.79	+3.10	18	376	+148		
Tell_City	85	48	69	+7	3.87	6		8.93	+2.36	16	509	+195		
Southeast (9)														
Brookville	85	52	68	+11	3.48	6		5.55	+0.07	15	377	+191		
Milan_5NE	83	44	66	+8	4.43	7		7.67	+2.19	21	350	+164		
Scottsburg	82	46	67	+7	3.87	6		10.26	+4.47	18	389	+121		

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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Herbicide Resistance Growing Like Weeds, Specialist Says (Continued)

Weed-control chemistry isn't keeping up with weed physiology, Johnson said.

"For the most part we haven't lost active ingredients in corn or soybean production, but we're not getting new active ingredients introduced, either," he said.

"In the 1980s and through the early part of the 1990s, we probably were getting one or two new herbicides with a relatively new mode-of-action every couple of years. We haven't gotten a new mode-of-action introduced into research programs in probably four or five years."

Developing effective new herbicides is a time-consuming and expensive task, Johnson said.

"There's probably a misconception out there that companies can turn on the spigot and turn out a new active ingredient, when in fact it takes probably \$100 million and 10 years of research to get a new product to the marketplace," he said.

Although weeds are gradually winning the control war, farmers still have a fighting chance. Johnson recommends producers avoid using similar mode-of-action herbicides on two or more crops. Also, planting soybeans in narrow rows helps minimize weed emergence later in the crop season, and can be effective with corn, as well.

"One of the best things we can do is rotate crops," Johnson said. "We rotate crops for insect and disease problems, and we need to rotate crops for weed problems. Most of our corn and soybean crops in Indiana are rotated. However, there are certain areas where soybeans are grown continuously.

"The other thing we can do - if soil erosion is not a big problem - is introduce tillage back into our systems. That could be some primary tillage in the fall, some secondary tillage in the spring or simply using a rotary hoe and cultivator in the crop. There aren't too many weeds that have developed resistance to being torn out of the ground by a piece of steel."

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Related Web sites:

Purdue University Weed Science Page: <http://www.btny.purdue.edu/weedscience/>

International Survey of Herbicide Resistant Weeds: <http://www.weedscience.org/>

Purdue News Service: (765) 494-2096; purdunews@purdue.edu of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University.

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