



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural
Statistics Service

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 25

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Much needed precipitation during the week helped relieve dry soil conditions around most of the state, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Major field activities were temporarily delayed in some areas, but farmers welcomed the rain. Planting of corn and soybeans continued to make excellent progress for this time of the season. Corn planting is 4 days ahead of the previous record pace established in 2001 and 10 days ahead of the average pace.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 4.1 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Forty-two percent of the intended **corn** acreage is planted compared with 21 percent for last year and 14 percent for the 5-year average. Five percent of the corn acreage has **emerged** compared with 1 percent last year and 1 percent for the average. By area, 34 percent of the corn is planted in the north, 45 percent in the central region and 54 percent in the south. Eight percent of the intended **soybean** acreage is planted compared with 3 percent last year and 3 percent for the average.

Sixty-nine percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed** compared with 70 percent last year and 73 percent for the 5-year average. One percent of the winter wheat is **headed** compared with 1 percent last year and 2 percent for the average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 86 percent good to excellent compared with 82 percent last year at this time.

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

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 9 percent excellent, 63 percent good, 23 percent fair, 4 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition. **Hay** supplies are mostly adequate, but in short supply in a few areas of the state. Hay is still being fed on some livestock farms. Lambing is nearing completion. Spring calving continued on cattle operations.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	42	15	21	14
Corn Emerged	5	NA	1	1
Soybean Planted	8	NA	3	3
Winter Wheat Jointed	69	46	70	73
Winter Wheat Headed	1	0	1	2

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	1	4	23	63	9
Winter Wheat 2004	1	1	12	66	20
Winter Wheat 2003	0	2	16	62	20

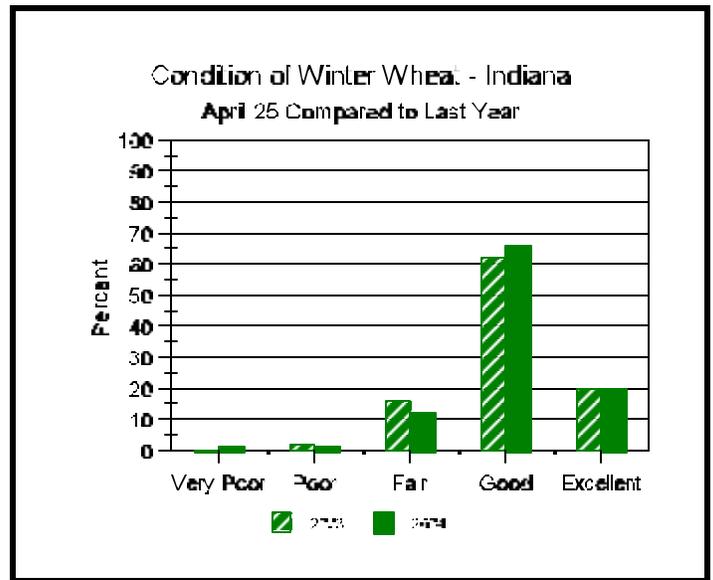
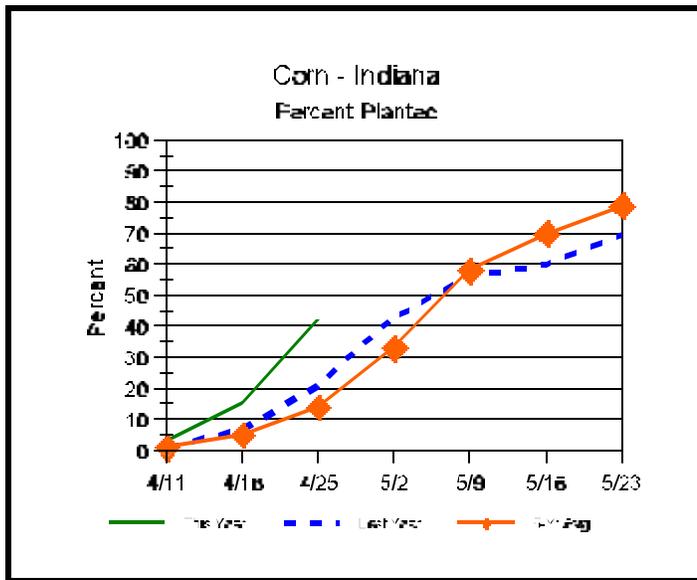
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	4	8	3
Short	14	23	15
Adequate	64	60	59
Surplus	18	9	23
Subsoil			
Very Short	4	6	6
Short	19	17	19
Adequate	68	70	65
Surplus	9	7	10
Days Suitable	4.1	5.9	4.1

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Dry Topsoil Concerns Some Corn Growers

Corn planting in the Hoosier Boilermaker state is off to the races with 15% of the state's crop acreage already in the ground, well ahead of the five-year average of 5% (Indiana Ag. Stats. Service, 4/19/04) and ahead of the previous record pace (8%) set in 1976. Three reasons for the early rapid rate of corn planting are dry soils, warm soil temperatures (relative to early April), and short-term memories of last year's wet May that delayed some corn planting until early June.

Some of the regulars at the Chat 'n Chew Café are beginning to fuss about the dryness of the soil, especially topsoil moisture. As of 18 April, 31% of the state's topsoil moisture was in fact rated as short to very short (Indiana Ag. Stats. Service, 4/19/04). Thunderstorms rolling through Indiana this week are replenishing soil moisture in some, but not all, areas of the state.

One of the concerns when surface soils are dry is the increased risk of injury to corn germination or

to young corn seedlings from pre-plant anhydrous ammonia applications. Such injury is caused by desiccation of below ground plant parts that come into contact with the ammonia zone. Symptoms of anhydrous injury include poor or weak germination, discolored kernels, wilted seedlings, and brown stubbed-off roots. Shallow injection depths (less than 7 – 8 inches), coarse-textured soils, and dry surface soils (especially cloddy soils) all increase the risk of ammonia movement farther than normal from the point of injection (Sawyer, 2000) and thus the risk of injury to corn germination and young corn seedlings.

Another concern related to dry surface soils is whether soil moisture at the seed zone is uniformly adequate for germination. Uneven soil moisture in the seed zone is the primary cause of uneven emergence, the results of can easily reduce yield potential by 6 to 9 percent (Carter et al., 2002). Under normal conditions, seeding

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday April 25, 2004

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation					
	Air Temperature				Precip.			Avg	April 1, 2004 thru April 25, 2004				
								4 in	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Northwest (1)													
Chalmers_5W	89	41	58	+5	1.06	3	61	1.06	-1.94	3	118	+31	
Valparaiso_AP_I	87	37	58	+7	0.71	2		0.85	-2.47	3	124	+64	
Wanatah	88	32	55	+5	0.80	2	60	0.98	-2.21	3	99	+54	
Wheatfield	86	39	57	+7	1.04	3		2.74	-0.44	9	107	+59	
Winamac	86	38	58	+6	1.01	4		1.11	-1.98	6	119	+55	
North Central(2)													
Plymouth	86	37	57	+4	0.49	3		0.68	-2.55	5	104	+33	
South_Bend	87	37	59	+9	0.40	2		0.44	-2.79	4	132	+80	
Young_America	86	43	60	+8	0.86	4		0.86	-2.02	4	129	+67	
Northeast (3)													
Columbia_City	86	39	58	+8	0.69	4		0.70	-2.32	5	105	+62	
Fort_Wayne	86	37	60	+8	0.79	4		0.83	-2.00	6	121	+64	
West Central (4)													
Greencastle	83	43	61	+6	0.97	5		1.00	-2.05	6	127	+26	
Perrysville	86	42	61	+8	1.54	4	60	1.54	-1.69	4	159	+78	
Spencer_Ag	85	48	62	+8	1.11	6		1.88	-1.42	10	133	+47	
Terre_Haute_AFB	85	49	65	+10	1.13	3		1.23	-1.97	5	176	+74	
W_Lafayette_6NW	87	41	60	+8	1.33	3	62	1.33	-1.75	3	144	+79	
Central (5)													
Eagle_Creek_AP	83	44	62	+8	1.42	4		1.53	-1.52	6	157	+64	
Greenfield	85	44	60	+7	1.10	3		1.28	-2.06	9	127	+53	
Indianapolis_AP	85	48	63	+9	1.40	4		1.60	-1.45	6	176	+83	
Indianapolis_SE	85	44	60	+6	1.37	4		1.52	-1.56	6	139	+55	
Tipton_Ag	86	42	59	+8	1.59	4	62	1.61	-1.64	5	113	+63	
East Central (6)													
Farmland	84	40	59	+8	1.35	4		2.06	-0.92	9	111	+65	
New_Castle	82	42	57	+6	1.20	3		1.36	-2.03	7	84	+34	
Southwest (7)													
Evansville	83	52	67	+9	1.27	2		1.90	-1.41	5	218	+55	
Freelandville	83	51	63	+8	0.94	4		1.13	-2.03	8	170	+55	
Shoals	84	50	64	+9	1.73	6		2.38	-0.97	9	172	+58	
Stendal	83	52	65	+8	1.17	3		1.76	-1.91	6	193	+57	
Vincennes_5NE	85	50	65	+10	1.37	5	61	2.03	-1.13	9	187	+72	
South Central(8)													
Leavenworth	82	52	63	+8	2.38	5		3.79	-0.03	9	165	+47	
Oolitic	82	48	63	+9	1.95	5	63	2.64	-0.66	10	143	+46	
Tell_City	82	53	66	+9	1.84	4		4.24	+0.24	9	219	+74	
Southeast (9)													
Brookville	86	46	60	+8	0.93	2		2.30	-0.84	8	126	+55	
Milan_5NE	84	44	61	+8	1.71	6		3.20	+0.06	12	131	+60	
Scottsburg	84	44	63	+7	2.16	6		3.14	-0.33	11	156	+41	

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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Dry Topsoil Concerns Some Corn Growers (Continued)

depths of 1 ½ to 2 inches are usually sufficient to achieve uniform soil moisture in the seed zone. Seeding depth decisions when surface soils are on the dry side may require planting as deep as 2 ½ to 3 inches if necessary to achieve uniformly moist seedbed conditions, especially when the short-term weather forecast is not promising any significant rainfall. The key factor when faced with dry surface soils is taking the time DURING planting to visually inspect the soil moisture levels at the seed zone and change planter depth settings accordingly to best ensure placement of seeds into a uniformly moist seedbed.

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Sawyer, John. 2000. Anhydrous application and dry soils. Integrated Crop Mgmt. Newsletter, Iowa State Univ. Available online at <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm/2000/10-23-2000/anhydrous.html> (Verified 4/19/04).

For other Corny News Network articles, browse through the CNN Archives at <http://www.kingcorn.org/news/index-cnn.html>.

For other information about corn, take a look at the Corn Growers' Guidebook at <http://www.kingcorn.org>.

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