



# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural  
Statistics

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 19

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Soybean harvest was in full swing in the central areas of the state last week. Harvesting of mature corn fields also made good progress in some areas, according to Indiana Agricultural Statistics. The best progress for corn harvest is in the southern region with about 18 percent of the corn acreage harvested. Twenty-two percent of the soybean acreage is harvested in the central region. Favorable weather conditions continue to help corn and soybean fields advance rapidly toward maturity.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.7 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Ninety-five percent of the corn acreage has reached the **dent** stage compared with 86 percent last year and 94 percent for the average. Sixty-four percent of the corn acreage is **mature** (safe from frost) compared with 34 percent last year and 59 percent for the average. Eight percent of the corn acreage is **harvested** compared with 4 percent last year and 8 percent for the average. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging about 22 percent. Corn **condition** is rated 79 percent good to excellent compared with 58 percent last year at this time.

Seventy-eight percent of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 50 percent last year and 66 percent for the average. Fifty percent of the soybean acreage is **mature** compared with 17 percent last year and 30 percent for the average. Fourteen percent of the soybean acreage is **harvested** compared with 4 percent last year and 6 percent for the average. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging about 13 percent. Soybean **condition** is rated 73 percent good to excellent compared with 56 percent last year at this time.

Three percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is planted compared with 3 percent last year and 3 percent for the average. **Tobacco** harvest is 74 complete compared with 64 percent last year and 76 percent for the average.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

**Pasture condition** is rated 11 percent excellent, 53 percent good, 26 percent fair, 9 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

### CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Corn in Dent	95	92	86	94
Corn Mature	64	48	34	59
Corn Harvested	8	3	4	8
Soybeans Shedding Lvs	78	60	50	66
Soybeans Mature	50	25	17	30
Soybeans Harvested	14	4	4	6
Winter Wheat Planted	3	1	3	3
Tobacco Harvested	74	59	64	76

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	3	4	14	48	31
Soybean	3	5	19	50	23
Pasture	1	9	26	53	11

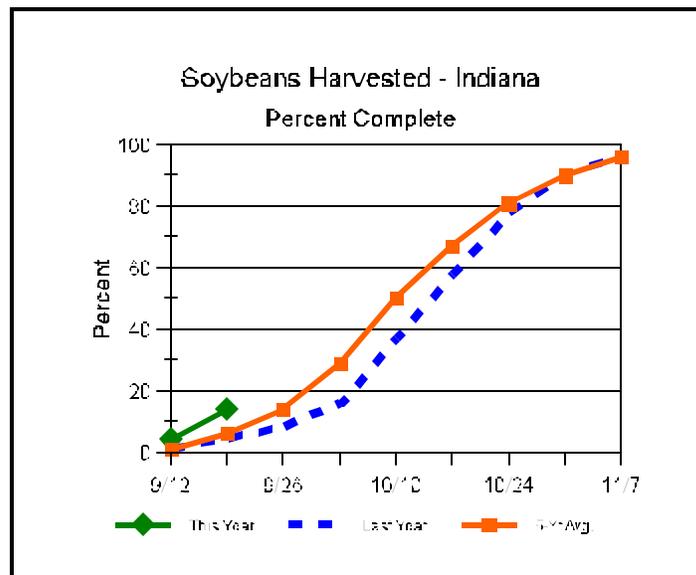
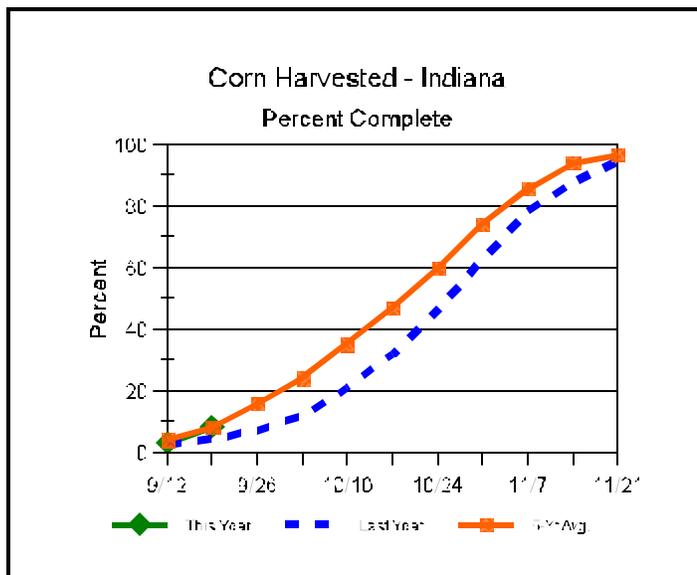
### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	3	1	2
Short	28	13	15
Adequate	67	80	78
Surplus	2	6	5
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	4	1	4
Short	17	12	14
Adequate	75	82	76
Surplus	4	5	6
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.7	6.4	6.7

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## Crop Progress



### Other Agricultural Comments And News

#### **Ag input prices on the rise, but so is average farm income**

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - In what's become par for the course, agricultural input costs are up for the 2005 growing season.

Alan Miller, a Purdue Extension ag economist said, "Fertilizers, chemicals, seed, drying fuel and machinery fuel, all those things are up, they're not up very much, but certainly they're up enough that they will get people's attention."

Total ag production expenses in the United States increased at an average rate of 2.1 percent from 1995 through 2004 with only feed and livestock input prices likely to be lower among the major categories.

"That sounds fairly bleak," Miller said. "In fact, it's not that bad. Even with the higher costs and lower prices that we're going to see in 2005, total net farm income in Indiana will still be above average."

Still, farmers should be prepared to deal with higher prices.

Corn, soybeans and wheat are expected to be more expensive to produce. Miller said that the per-acre cost of growing crops on average quality land is expected to increase around \$16 for continuous corn, \$12 for rotation corn and beans, \$11 for second-year beans, \$11 for double crop wheat and beans and \$3 for wheat.

Miller said energy prices continue to be a prominent factor.

"There's a limited ability to increase oil production worldwide on a short-term basis, so that makes us really susceptible to any kind of disruption in supply or even a threat of disruption," he said. "It's going to be an interesting period. We're going to have to get used to prices being all over the place."

Gas and diesel prices have increased more than 25 cents per gallon during the past year and are expected to be higher in 2005. Farmers, however, can lessen the impact of fuel price increases, Miller said.

"A lot of farmers buy fuel in bulk, so that's one thing that can mean a pretty significant discount on fuel," he said. "The other advantage is that it gives you a half year or more in which to pick the most favorable period to buy."

Natural gas prices have been more stable this year.

"The natural gas is high priced, and that causes problems from the standpoint that we use natural gas to produce anhydrous ammonia," Miller said. "Our concern is that, while the price is too high now, if we look at futures for natural gas, January is \$1.50 higher per million BTU, so this is going to get even more expensive and more problematic."

Miller expects to see higher average prices for nitrogen fertilizers.

# Weather Information Table

**Week ending Sunday September 19, 2004**

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation						
	Air				Precip.			Avg		April 1, 2004 thru September 19, 2004				
	Temperature							4 in	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN		
<b>Northwest (1)</b>														
Chalmers_5W	90	49	69	+5	0.27	1	71	29.33	+8.22	57	2785	-116		
Valparaiso_AP_I	85	48	68	+5	0.17	1		20.05	-2.55	64	2609	-41		
Wanatah	88	44	67	+4	0.38	1	73	21.89	-0.01	68	2435	-98		
Wheatfield	86	49	68	+5	0.85	2		37.30	+16.02	72	2552	-38		
Winamac	86	48	69	+5	0.44	1	70	28.55	+7.26	72	2666	-1		
<b>North Central (2)</b>														
Plymouth	85	47	68	+3	0.42	2		26.32	+4.71	71	2574	-229		
South_Bend	85	48	69	+6	0.36	1		22.28	+1.30	73	2731	+99		
Young_America	88	47	69	+5	0.00	0		26.76	+6.23	62	2796	+41		
<b>Northeast (3)</b>														
Columbia_City	84	44	68	+5	0.02	1	70	24.97	+4.36	73	2576	+65		
Fort_Wayne	84	45	68	+4	0.00	0		25.34	+6.36	66	2765	+10		
<b>West Central (4)</b>														
Greencastle	85	43	67	-1	0.20	1		22.70	-1.19	66	2756	-346		
Perrysville	89	46	71	+6	0.11	1	76	21.49	-1.04	53	3020	+131		
Spencer_Ag	85	47	69	+4	0.30	1		27.30	+3.17	69	2955	+39		
Terre_Haute_AFB	87	47	71	+5	0.49	2		18.92	-3.65	62	3211	+131		
W_Lafayette_6NW	90	42	69	+5	0.00	0	79	23.19	+2.11	50	2780	+40		
<b>Central (5)</b>														
Eagle_Creek_AP	86	50	71	+5	0.21	1		19.41	-1.73	64	3102	+48		
Greenfield	85	47	69	+3	0.00	0		22.64	-0.50	63	2943	+6		
Indianapolis_AP	85	51	71	+5	0.14	1		27.12	+5.98	59	3206	+152		
Indianapolis_SE	85	45	69	+3	0.06	1		22.42	+0.79	54	2962	-84		
Tipton_Ag	85	46	68	+5	0.17	2	73	22.48	+1.09	64	2704	+46		
<b>East Central (6)</b>														
Farmland	87	42	68	+5	0.00	0	66	21.25	+0.41	61	2740	+143		
New_Castle	84	43	66	+2	0.69	1		23.32	+1.16	50	2445	-216		
<b>Southwest (7)</b>														
Evansville	87	49	73	+4	0.08	1		22.70	+1.43	53	3601	+65		
Freelandville	85	52	71	+4	0.04	1		23.13	+0.95	56	3243	+63		
Shoals	85	47	71	+5	0.00	0		26.14	+2.14	61	3242	+158		
Stendal	85	51	72	+4	0.23	1		24.65	+0.77	55	3442	+105		
Vincennes_5NE	86	49	72	+6	0.27	2	75	23.56	+1.38	67	3375	+195		
<b>South Central (8)</b>														
Leavenworth	86	50	71	+5	0.09	2		31.93	+7.60	65	3273	+209		
Oolitic	85	50	70	+4	0.05	1	75	26.03	+3.03	67	3077	+129		
Tell_City	86	53	74	+5	0.00	0		30.60	+6.17	55	3687	+276		
<b>Southeast (9)</b>														
Brookville	88	47	71	+6	0.04	1		19.11	-3.23	54	3130	+328		
Milan_5NE	84	47	69	+5	0.61	2		27.60	+5.26	90	3048	+246		
Scottsburg	85	44	70	+3	0.00	0		32.91	+10.07	59	3160	-8		

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 input prices on the rise, but so is average farm income (continued)

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"It doesn't help that we've also got some shortages in other types of nitrogen fertilizers," he said. "From a management strategy standpoint, what I've been pushing is keep in mind this \$1.50 carrying premium for natural gas. The best opportunities to buy may be this fall."

With fertilizer and fuel being expensive, it's even more important to select good seed.

"Seed is expected to be available in adequate supplies, but seed prices are expected to be 5 to 10 percent higher for technology seeds," Miller said. Prices of non-GMO varieties also will increase, but more moderately, he said.

"More seed varieties will carry seed treatments as a matter of course and as an element of price, rather than as an optional extra-cost treatment," Miller said. In some cases there is no reduction in cost for purchasing non-treated varieties.

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