



# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural  
Statistics

1435 Win Hentschel Blvd.  
Suite B105

West Lafayette, IN 47906-4145  
(765) 494-8371

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 3

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Lack of precipitation in recent weeks has dried out soils, according to Indiana Agricultural Statistics. Farmers are encouraged to monitor equipment and field conditions during harvest as there is growing concern of fire developing. Soybean harvest is 10 days ahead of the average pace. Corn harvest is 3 days ahead of the average pace.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.8 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Ninety-one percent of the corn acreage is **mature** (safe from frost) compared with 73 percent last year and 88 percent for the average. Twenty-nine percent of the corn acreage is **harvested** compared with 12 percent last year and 24 percent for the average. By area, 20 percent of the corn acreage is harvested in the north, 28 percent in the central region and 52 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging about 18 percent. Corn **condition** is rated 83 percent good to excellent compared with 63 percent last year at this time.

Ninety-five percent of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 84 percent last year and 92 percent for the average. Eighty-four percent of the soybean acreage is **mature** compared with 59 percent last year and 75 percent for the average. Fifty-five percent of the soybean acreage is **harvested** compared with 16 percent last year and 29 percent for the average. By area, 47 percent of the soybean acreage is harvested in the north, 70 percent in the central region and 40 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging about 11 percent. Soybean **condition** is rated 78 percent good to excellent compared with 50 percent last year at this time.

Twenty-five percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is planted compared with 11 percent last year and 16 percent for the average pace. **Tobacco** harvest is 93 complete compared with 89 percent last year and 94 percent for the average.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

**Pasture condition** is rated 3 percent excellent, 36 percent good, 35 percent fair, 19 percent poor and 7 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	99	99	100	100
Corn Mature	91	82	73	88
Corn Harvested	29	17	12	24
Soybeans Shedding Lvs	95	88	84	92
Soybeans Mature	84	69	59	75
Soybeans Harvested	55	34	16	29
Winter Wheat Planted	25	6	11	16
Tobacco Harvested	93	87	89	94

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	2	3	12	48	35
Soybean	2	4	16	49	29
Pasture	7	19	35	36	3

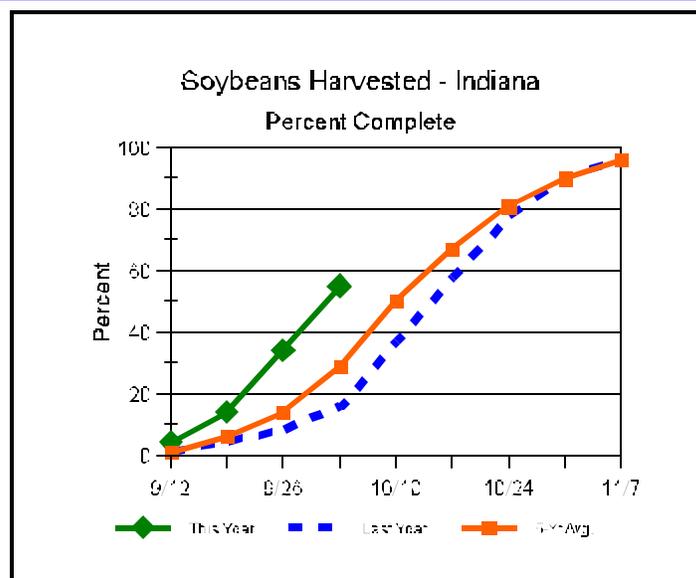
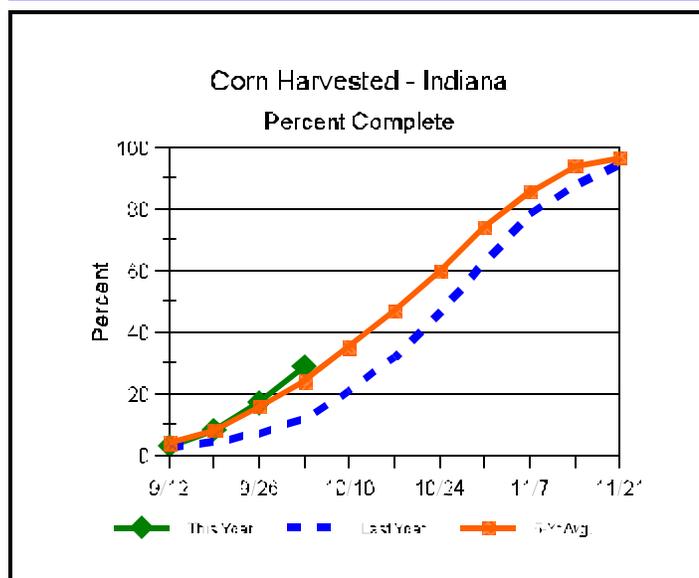
### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	24	14	1
Short	43	43	6
Adequate	33	43	80
Surplus	0	0	13
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	15	8	4
Short	34	28	9
Adequate	51	64	78
Surplus	0	0	9
<b>Days Suitable</b>	6.8	7.0	4.9

### CONTACT INFORMATION

--Greg Preston, Director  
 --Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician  
 E-Mail Address: [nass-in@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-in@nass.usda.gov)  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm>

# Crop Progress



## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### Asian lady beetles set to return, but their numbers are lower

**! WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – Homeowners weary of their annual fight with Asian lady beetles may see fewer this year.**

Tim Gibb, a Purdue Extension entomologist said Asian lady beetles will still be around, but there are indications that their numbers could be down when compared to last year.

"From sampling in soybean fields, the early indications are that the population of lady beetles will not be as high this year as it has been the past couple of years," Gibb said. "Using that as an indicator of whether or not we're going to have beetle pressure in homes, it may be telling us we're not going to have as big a problem."

The decrease is probably due to lower soybean aphid numbers throughout the state. The lady beetle is a natural predator of aphids.

"Part of the reason that the Asian lady beetle population has been fluctuating over the last few years has to do with food sources," Gibb said.

Scientists think soybean aphid numbers were low this year for a couple of reasons.

Larry Bledsoe, an Extension entomologist, said most soybean aphids ride to Indiana on wind currents and storm fronts from the upper Mississippi valley. Spring rains in that area this year discouraged aphid activity.

"Spring rains there delayed planting so that the timing was not right for the aphids to colonize young soybean plants," Bledsoe said. "Also persistent storms after planting interfered with widespread colonization of the aphid. Lastly, Asian lady beetle numbers were unusually high last fall, which probably meant fewer aphid eggs overwintered relative to the previous year."

Although their predatory instincts are beneficial to farmers, the beetles have garnered a bad reputation with homeowners.

"Beginning in the latter part of October, the Asian lady beetle has a peculiar behavior of wanting to congregate in large groups inside buildings," Gibb said. "This becomes particularly troublesome if the building they've chosen happens to be your home."

Entomologists believe the beetles are attracted to buildings because – to the beetles anyway – the buildings look like cliffs in their native Asia.

"Their native habitat included high cliffs," Gibb said. "After feeding during the summertime, the beetles would head toward these tall outcroppings or cliffs and get into the cracks and caves to pass the winter."

"In Indiana we don't have many cliffs, but we do have tall, two-story homes that are light colored with windows or shadows that look like cracks or caves to the beetles."

(Continued on Page 4)

# Weather Information Table

**Week ending Sunday October 3, 2004**

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 2004 thru October 3, 2004				
	Temperature						4 in	Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
<b>Northwest (1)</b>												
Chalmers_5W	78	32	56	-5	0.26	2	66	29.59	+7.24	59	2950	-119
Valparaiso_AP_I	74	35	56	-4	0.34	1		20.39	-4.00	65	2761	-42
Wanatah	75	30	53	-6	0.40	1	65	22.29	-1.24	69	2562	-111
Wheatfield	75	32	55	-3	0.00	0		37.30	+14.51	72	2698	-33
Winamac	74	33	55	-4	0.24	2	61	28.79	+6.14	74	2816	+2
<b>North Central (2)</b>												
Plymouth	73	33	54	-6	0.22	2		26.54	+3.31	73	2711	-250
South_Bend	75	36	56	-4	0.39	2		22.67	+0.11	75	2886	+112
Young_America	76	30	56	-4	0.09	2		26.85	+4.89	64	2957	+45
<b>Northeast (3)</b>												
Columbia_City	73	33	55	-4	0.26	2	60	25.23	+3.21	75	2717	+68
Fort_Wayne	75	32	56	-3	0.35	3		25.69	+5.58	69	2925	+14
<b>West Central (4)</b>												
Greencastle	76	30	55	-7	0.17	1		22.87	-2.56	67	2895	-392
Perrysville	78	27	56	-5	0.04	1	68	21.53	-2.28	54	3187	+130
Spencer_Ag	77	32	57	-4	0.03	1		27.33	+1.88	70	3113	+33
Terre_Haute_AFB	77	30	58	-4	0.20	1		19.12	-4.88	63	3390	+128
W_Lafayette_6NW	76	31	55	-5	0.00	0	68	23.19	+0.83	50	2924	+26
<b>Central (5)</b>												
Eagle_Creek_AP	77	34	59	-2	0.09	1		19.50	-2.89	65	3296	+64
Greenfield	77	33	58	-3	0.01	1		22.65	-1.82	64	3119	+8
Indianapolis_AP	76	34	59	-2	0.05	1		27.17	+4.78	60	3407	+175
Indianapolis_SE	75	30	57	-4	0.00	0		22.42	-0.43	54	3140	-87
Tipton_Ag	75	32	56	-4	0.03	2	68	22.51	-0.27	66	2856	+48
<b>East Central (6)</b>												
Farmland	75	29	55	-4	0.06	2	60	21.31	-0.81	63	2887	+146
New_Castle	75	29	55	-4	0.00	0		23.32	-0.09	50	2583	-227
<b>Southwest (7)</b>												
Evansville	81	34	62	-2	0.01	1		22.72	+0.12	55	3819	+73
Freelandville	76	36	59	-4	0.02	1		23.15	-0.41	57	3431	+62
Shoals	78	35	59	-3	0.00	0		26.14	+0.74	61	3424	+156
Stendal	81	39	61	-2	0.00	0		24.65	-0.61	55	3649	+119
Vincennes_5NE	78	32	59	-3	0.01	1	67	23.57	+0.01	68	3575	+206
<b>South Central (8)</b>												
Leavenworth	78	36	60	-1	0.00	0		31.93	+6.34	65	3468	+224
Oolitic	77	32	59	-2	0.03	1	66	26.07	+1.76	69	3259	+140
Tell_City	81	41	63	-1	0.00	0		30.60	+4.76	55	3916	+292
<b>Southeast (9)</b>												
Brookville	81	34	60	+0	0.04	1		19.15	-4.40	55	3322	+360
Milan_5NE	77	36	59	-1	0.12	2		27.72	+4.17	92	3230	+268
Scottsburg	77	34	58	-4	0.04	1		32.95	+8.72	60	3332	-24

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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## Asian lady beetles set to return, but their numbers are lower (continued)

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Even if overall beetle numbers are down, that doesn't mean homeowners won't have problems.

"The key to controlling Asian lady beetles is to keep them out of the house in the first place," Gibb said. "Putting a preventative insecticide on the outside of the home in the middle of October will do wonders in keeping these things from appearing inside the home later."

Gibb suggests putting an insecticide containing a synthetic pyrethroid around windows, doors and under eaves, particularly on the south and west sides of the home. Other places where there is light and dark contrast also are attractive to the insects.

"Often the beetles will tell you where to treat if you just watch them and see where they begin congregating," he said.

It's better to stop the beetles before they get inside, because once in the walls they are protected. "A nice warm day in the middle of winter will reactivate the beetles, and they begin searching for a way back out of the wall void. In so doing, they often end up inside the home."

If left untreated, beetles can congregate by the thousands inside homes. If they do get inside, Gibb's best advice is to vacuum them up.

"After October it becomes difficult to control them, because the majority are still inside the wall voids where we can't get insecticides to them," he said. "They don't all reactivate at once. Even if indoor labeled insecticides are used in the home, the beetles inside the walls are going to continue to slowly appear. It will require daily vacuuming to stay ahead of the beetles reemergence."

Control recommendations for Asian lady beetles are available from Purdue Extension through a local Extension educator, the toll-free hotline (888) EXT-INFO, and on the [Web](#).

Writer: Kay Hagen, (765) 494-6682, [kjh@purdue.edu](mailto:kjh@purdue.edu)  
Sources: Tim Gibb, (765) 494-4570, [gibb@purdue.edu](mailto:gibb@purdue.edu)  
Larry Bledsoe, (765) 494-8324, [lbleadsoe@purdue.edu](mailto:lbleadsoe@purdue.edu)

Ag Communications: (765) 494-2722; Beth Forbes, [forbes@purdue.edu](mailto:forbes@purdue.edu)  
[Agriculture News Page](#)

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