



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural Statistics
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 10

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Field activities were gaining momentum during most of the week aided by sunshine and warmer temperatures, according to Indiana Agricultural Statistics. Mid-week showers temporarily halted fieldwork in some areas. The best progress for fieldwork took place in the central and northern regions of the state. Several fields of corn were planted, especially in the west central and north central areas. Field cultivation, spreading fertilizer and spraying of chemicals were also in full swing during the week.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were **4.3 days suitable for fieldwork**. Two percent of the intended **corn** acreage is planted compared with 3 percent last year and 1 percent for the 5-year average. Farmers took advantage of the warmer weather and drier field conditions last week to accomplish fieldwork. Seeding of oats continued. Final preparation of planters occurred during the week.

Sixteen percent of the winter wheat acreage is **jointed** compared with 24 percent last year and 23 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 69 percent good to excellent compared with 83 percent last year at this time. Wheat is greening up in the northern regions. Growth and development continues to improve in the central and southern areas of the state.

Other activities during the week were hauling grain to market, spreading lime, purchasing supplies, FSA certification, preparing equipment, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pastures are improving. Growth and development remain behind normal. Livestock are in mostly good condition. **Hay** supplies are rated 5 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 16 percent surplus. Spring calving continued on cattle operations.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Winter Wheat Jointed	16	3	24	23
Corn Planted	2	NA	3	1

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	1	6	33	56	4
Winter Wheat 2005	1	6	24	58	11
Winter Wheat 2004	0	2	15	63	20

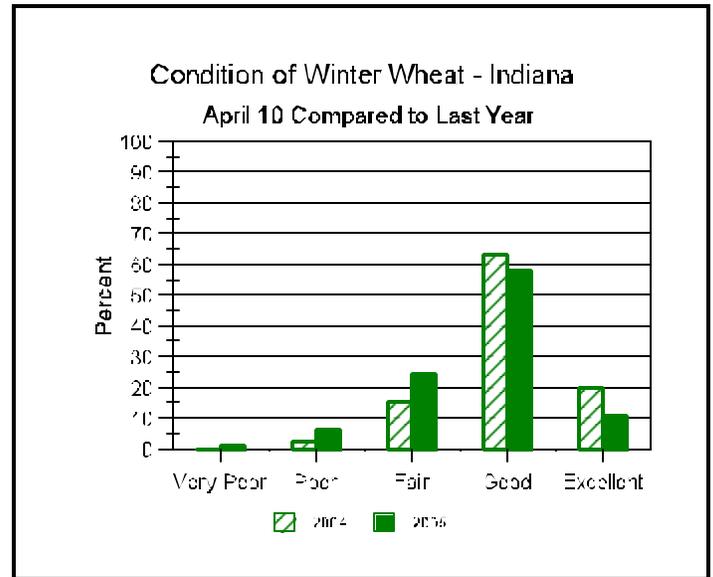
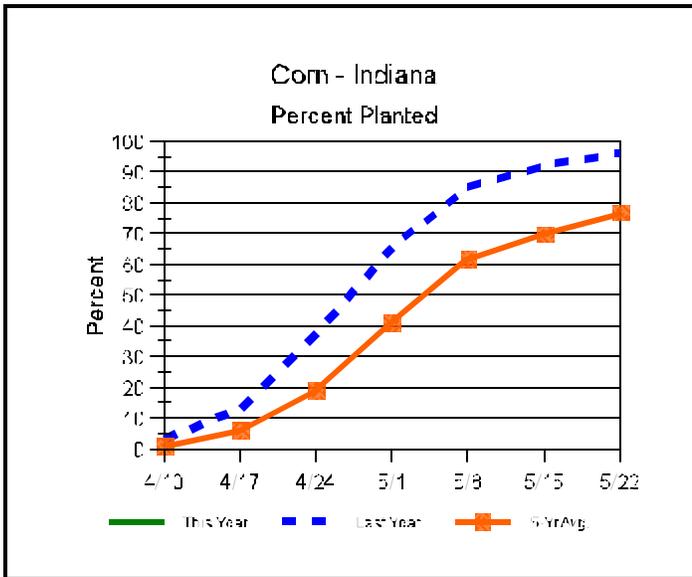
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	1	0	1
Short	7	2	8
Adequate	71	60	77
Surplus	21	38	14
Subsoil			
Very Short	1	0	2
Short	4	3	7
Adequate	81	77	77
Surplus	14	20	14
Days Suitable	4.3	2.2	5.5

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Spring Weed Control In Winter Wheat

Wheat is starting to green up across much of Indiana and now is a good time to evaluate weed populations and whether or not a control measure is needed. Most spring applied wheat herbicides should be applied before jointing to avoid crop injury and yield loss. To determine wheat growth stages, refer to the previous issue of the Pest and Crop newsletter for an article written by Greg Shaner and Shawn Conley regarding proper wheat growth staging. In recent years, we have seen an increase in the number of products registered for use in wheat. The purpose of this article is to provide a brief review of some of the commonly used wheat herbicides and the importance of application timing, and best management practices for wild garlic.

It is also important to be aware that restrictions exist concerning application timing of these herbicides to avoid crop injury. Phenoxy herbicides, such as 2,4-D and MCPA, control a number of annual broadleaf weeds and are the least expensive of these herbicides to use. However, proper application timing of the growth-regulating herbicides 2,4-D, MCPA and Banvel® is critical to avoid crop injury and possible yield losses. These herbicides can cause substantial crop injury and yield loss in small grains if applied before tillering begins or after development of the grain heads has been initiated.

The exact time at which grain heads have been initiated is not easy to determine, but this event always just precedes stem elongation. The occurrence of stem elongation can be easily detected by the appearance of the first node or "joint" above the soil surface, commonly referred to as the "jointing stage." Pinch a wheat plant stem at the base between the thumb and forefinger and slide your fingers up the stem. The presence of a node or joint will be felt as a hard bump about an inch above the soil surface. Slicing the stem lengthwise with a sharp knife will reveal a cross section of the hollow stem and solid node. If jointing has occurred, applications of 2,4-D, MCPA and Banvel® should be avoided because crop injury and yield loss are likely. Research conducted while I was at the University of Missouri showed a 3-to 6-bushel per acre yield loss from

2,4-D and Banvel® applications to wheat after the jointing stage (to view the chart showing wheat yields, see: www.btny.purdue.edu/weedscience/2005/wheatman05.pdf, page 1).

MCPA alone at labeled rates should be applied before jointing. However, the amount of MCPA applied in Bronate, a combination of bromoxynil and MCPA, is low enough to permit later applications.

Many wheat yields in Indiana contain wild garlic and wild onion. Although not considered as strong competitors with a wheat crop, wild garlic (*Allium vineale*) and wild onion (*Allium canadense*) are both responsible for imparting a strong odor to beef and dairy products. Wheat producers and grain elevator operators are very familiar with dockages that occur with the presence of wild garlic or onion bulbs in their harvested grain. Found throughout Indiana, wild garlic is a native of Europe, while wild onion is native. Despite the fact that these perennials both occur in similar habitats, wild garlic occupies the majority of small grain settings, including wheat.

Control measures for wild onion and wild garlic will differ. Producers, consultants and industry personnel will want to make certain that they are able to distinguish between these two weed species. The vegetative leaves of wild garlic are linear, smooth, round and hollow (flowering stems are solid). A major difference with wild onion is that its leaves are flat in cross section and not hollow. Another varying feature are the underground bulbs. Wild garlic's bulbs have a thin membranous outer coating while wild onion's bulbs have a fibrous, net-veined coating.

Harmony Extra® (thifensulfuron + tribenuron) is the herbicide most commonly used for control of garlic in wheat, plus it controls a relatively wide spectrum of other broadleaf weeds and possesses a fairly wide application window.

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday April 10, 2005

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation						
	Air				Precip.			April 1, 2005 thru April 10, 2005						
	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	80	30	55	+7	0.05	1		0.23	-0.91	2	41	+19		
Valparaiso_AP_I	78	31	54	+9	0.04	1		0.12	-1.15	2	43	+31		
Wanatah	79	30	52	+8	0.05	1	53	0.24	-0.99	2	32	+22		
Wheatfield	78	34	55	+10	0.11	2		0.31	-0.92	3	40	+30		
Winamac	77	33	55	+9	0.01	1	52	0.17	-1.01	2	42	+29		
North Central(2)														
Plymouth	79	34	55	+8	0.04	1		0.19	-1.06	2	40	+25		
South_Bend	78	31	55	+10	0.05	1		0.09	-1.20	2	46	+36		
Young_America	78	37	56	+10	0.00	0		0.18	-0.92	1	47	+35		
Northeast (3)														
Columbia_City	78	33	55	+11	0.02	1	52	0.18	-1.02	2	43	+35		
Fort_Wayne	79	29	55	+10	0.12	2		0.20	-0.90	4	43	+33		
West Central(4)														
Greencastle	77	35	56	+7	0.20	2		0.41	-0.79	3	43	+18		
Perrysville	78	33	57	+9	0.01	1	56	0.23	-1.04	2	56	+37		
Spencer_Ag	77	36	55	+8	0.29	2		0.51	-0.80	3	42	+21		
Terre_Haute_AFB	77	37	57	+8	0.06	2		0.25	-0.98	3	58	+32		
W_Lafayette_6NW	79	34	57	+11	0.05	1	56	0.12	-1.04	2	57	+44		
Central (5)														
Eagle_Creek_AP	78	39	59	+10	0.30	2		0.42	-0.81	4	67	+44		
Greenfield	76	37	57	+9	0.44	2		0.66	-0.63	3	48	+32		
Indianapolis_AP	76	40	59	+10	0.49	2		0.60	-0.63	4	63	+40		
Indianapolis_SE	76	39	57	+9	0.30	1		0.51	-0.68	2	54	+34		
Tipton_Ag	77	33	54	+8	0.48	3	54	0.68	-0.59	4	34	+24		
East Central(6)														
Farmland	76	31	54	+9	0.26	2	47	0.57	-0.60	4	33	+23		
New_Castle	74	33	52	+7	0.28	2		0.65	-0.64	4	26	+16		
Southwest (7)														
Evansville	77	42	61	+8	0.14	2		0.45	-0.90	4	83	+35		
Freelandville	77	39	59	+9	0.25	2		0.48	-0.77	3	68	+36		
Shoals	77	42	59	+9	0.34	2		0.59	-0.78	3	70	+39		
Stendal	80	40	61	+10	0.32	2		0.66	-0.84	4	86	+48		
Vincennes_5NE	79	43	60	+10	0.18	1	56	0.69	-0.56	3	77	+45		
South Central(8)														
Leavenworth	78	40	60	+10	0.80	2		1.22	-0.36	4	78	+45		
Oolitic	75	38	58	+9	0.48	2	56	0.74	-0.59	4	58	+33		
Tell_City	79	37	62	+10	0.69	2		1.12	-0.49	3	90	+47		
Southeast (9)														
Brookville	79	35	57	+10	0.35	2		0.76	-0.50	4	51	+35		
Milan_5NE	77	35	57	+10	0.34	2		0.84	-0.42	4	54	+38		
Scottsburg	80	36	58	+8	0.53	2		0.83	-0.58	3	61	+29		

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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Spring Weed Control In Winter Wheat (Continued)

Harmony GT ® (thifensulfuron) also has activity on wild garlic, but is considered to be slightly weaker than Harmony Extra ®. Peak ® is also labeled and effective on wild garlic in wheat, but it is fairly persistent in soil. The Peak ® label does not allow one to plant double crop soybean following wheat harvest in Indiana. Wild onion is controlled with 2,4-D. Keep in mind that both of these weeds are perennials and the full labeled rate is needed for adequate control.

In the last 3 years, three new herbicides have been registered that provide grass control in wheat. These products include Maverick ®, Olympus ®, and Osprey ®. Maverick (sulfosulfuron) is a product labeled for applications in the fall, but not the spring. Olympus ® and Osprey ® can be applied in the fall or in the spring. We have not tested these products in our field research program, so the information summarized here is from the manufacturers label. We will summarize the information for Olympus ® and Osprey ® since they would be the only grass herbicides labeled for use at this time.

Olympus ® is labeled for control of downy brome, cheat, and mustard species. It is an ALS inhibitor and must be applied before jointing. It can be applied with nitrogen

solutions and requires the use of a nonionic surfactant as well. Temporary crop injury may occur if applied in a nitrogen solution. Do not plant other crops for at least 18 months following application. So, this product would not allow planting of double crop soybean in Indiana.

Osprey ® is labeled for control of annual bluegrass and annual ryegrass. It is also an ALS inhibitor and should be applied before jointing. Grass weeds should be in the 1-leaf to 2 tiller stage for best control. The label states that Osprey ® should be applied with water as the carrier, but up to 15% of the spray solution can be nitrogen fertilizer solution. Osprey ® requires the use of a methylated seed oil or nonionic surfactant plus ammonium sulfate or 28% UAN. Soybeans cannot be planted until 90 days after application.

Bill Johnson & Glenn Nice, Purdue University Extension Weed Science, West Lafayette, IN.

The above article also has a table describing various herbicides and how they can be used to control broadleaf weeds in wheat, which can be viewed at: www.btny.purdue.edu/weedscience/2005/wheatman05.pdf, page 3. For free herbicide labels, go to: www.cdms.net and www.greenbook.net.

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