**USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service**

# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office
1435 Win Hentschel Blvd.
Suite B105
West Lafayette, IN 47906-4145
(765) 494-8371
nass-in@nass.usda.gov

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 3

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Widely scattered showers brought relief to the corn and soybean crop in some areas, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. However, crops remain under stress in many areas around the state. Crop conditions continued to decline due to recent hot, dry weather. Winter wheat harvest was gaining momentum in the central and northern regions. Spraying for weeds continued in several soybean fields. Reporters indicate that yields are below normal from second cutting of hay crops. Pastures in some areas are turning brown and a few farmers have begun to feed hay.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.0 **days suitable for fieldwork.** Corn **condition** declined and is rated 47 percent good to excellent compared with 74 percent last year at this time. Eight percent of the corn acreage has **silked** compared with 29 last year and 10 percent for the 5-year average. Twenty-five percent of the soybean acreage is **blooming** compared with 24 percent last year and 14 percent for the average. Virtually all of the soybean acreage has **emerged** except for some of the double crop soybean acreage. Soybean **condition** also declined and is rated 48 percent good to excellent compared with 67 percent last year.

Fifty-three percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **harvested** compared with 74 percent last year and 56 percent for the 5-year average. By area, wheat harvest is 11 percent complete in the north, 46 percent complete in the central region and 90 percent complete in the south. Second cutting of **alfalfa hay** is 32 percent complete compared with 19 percent last year and 22 percent for the average.

Major activities during the week included baling hay and straw, planting double crop soybeans, scouting crops, cleaning up equipment, attending FSA offices, hauling grain to market, mowing roadsides and pastures, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

**Pasture** condition declined and is rated 2 percent excellent, 37 percent good, 37 percent fair, 18 percent poor and 6 percent very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

### CROP PROGRESS TABLE

| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5-Year Avg |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | | | |
| Corn Silked | 8 | 1 | 29 | 10 |
| Soybeans Blooming | 25 | 7 | 24 | 14 |
| Alfalfa Second Cutting | 32 | NA | 19 | 22 |
| Winter Wheat Harvested | 53 | 29 | 74 | 56 |

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

| Crop | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excel-lent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | | | | |
| Corn | 3 | 12 | 38 | 41 | 6 |
| Soybeans | 3 | 12 | 37 | 42 | 6 |
| Pasture | 6 | 18 | 37 | 37 | 2 |

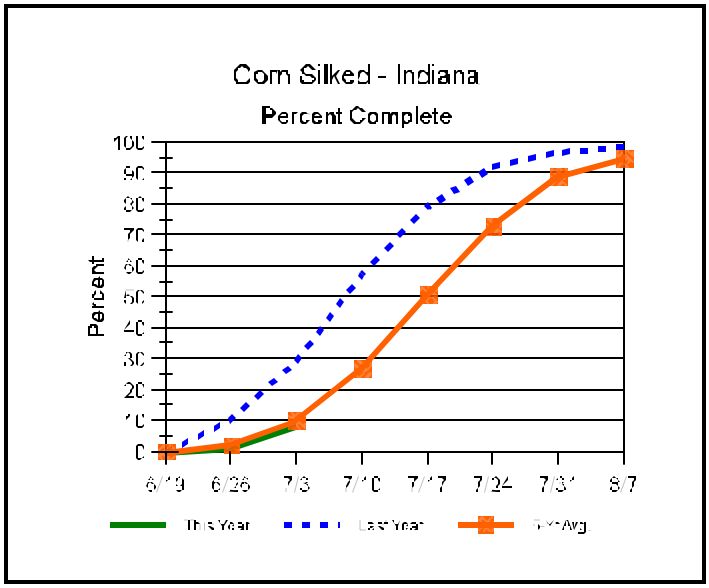
### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

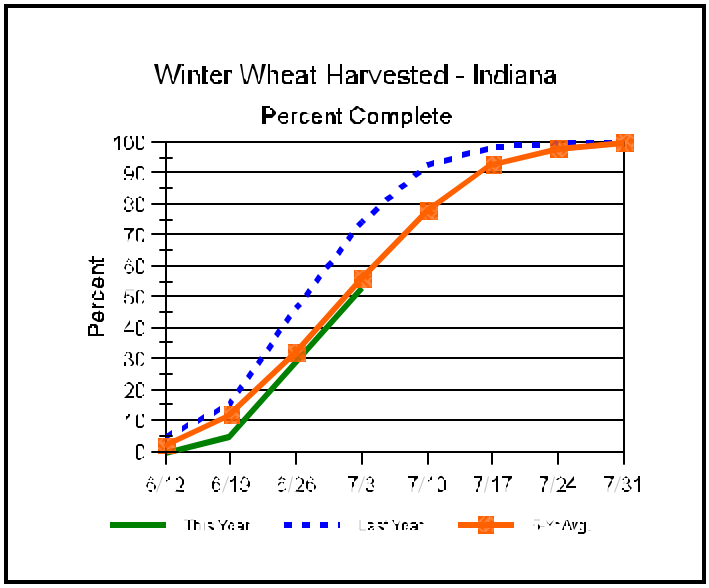
| | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Percent | | |
| **Topsoil** | | | |
| Very Short | 24 | 16 | 1 |
| Short | 42 | 49 | 20 |
| Adequate | 33 | 35 | 73 |
| Surplus | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| **Subsoil** | | | |
| Very Short | 15 | 8 | 0 |
| Short | 43 | 38 | 12 |
| Adequate | 41 | 53 | 80 |
| Surplus | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| **Days Suitable** | 6.0 | 6.9 | 6.2 |

### CONTACT INFORMATION

--Greg Preston, Director
--Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician
E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm

# Crop Progress




## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### Jumping On To The Drought Bandwagon

Soil moisture deficits have been a concern for our neighbors in Illinois and parts of Ohio since earlier in June. Most of Indiana's corn crop was spared until recently due to more generous spring rainfall plus a good shot of rain from Tropical Storm Arlene in mid-June. Within the past week or so, however, the consequences of mounting soil moisture shortages are becoming increasingly evident in corn fields throughout Indiana, primarily in the form of dramatic leaf rolling during daytime hours.

Topsoil and subsoil moisture estimates reported by the Indiana Ag. Statistics Service declined sharply in today's report (6/27/05); only 35% and 54% Adequate to Surplus, respectively, contrasted to last week's estimates of 80% and 78% Adequate to Surplus. Another indicator of the worsening soil moisture deficits was the decrease in crop condition rated Good to Excellent from 66% of the corn acres last week to 56% reported today (6/27/05). Last year at this time, 73% of the state's corn crop was rated Good to Excellent.

**Yield Loss Estimates**

Given that leaf rolling is an early symptom of drought stress, how does one assess the yield consequences once it appears in a field? An accurate estimate is difficult to give, but we can identify the high risk situations. Obviously, yield losses are more likely the more hours of a day and the more consecutive days that leaves are rolled tightly because of the overall reduction in photosynthetic energy capture and carbon fixation. Yield losses are also more likely when severe drought stress occurs shortly before, during, and shortly after pollination than at any other time of the growing season.

The most commonly cited data on expected yield loss due to severe drought stress at varying growth stages come from a summary of five drought stress studies (Shaw, 1988). Those data suggest potential yield losses range from 2 to 4 percent per day during the four weeks preceding pollination, 3 to 8 percent per day during pollination, and 3 to 5 percent per day during the four weeks following pollination. These estimates need to be tempered with the fact that overall hybrid tolerance to stress in general, including drought, has greatly improved during the past 15 to 20 years. The effects of drought stress on today's hybrids, while severe, are undoubtedly much less than for hybrids used many years ago.

The effects of extended periods of drought stress and reduced photosynthesis prior to pollination include shorter plants, smaller leaves, and smaller potential ears (especially ear length or kernels per row). Plants are already noticeably stunted in the more severely stressed areas of many fields.

The effects of severe drought stress during pollination include the hastened onset and shortened duration of pollen shed, delayed silk emergence, and/or desiccated silks not receptive to pollen germination. The effect of drought stress and reduced photosynthesis shortly after pollination is primarily in the form of the higher risk of abortion of the young developing kernels.

**Final Trivia**

Leaf rolling typically occurs first in fields where soil moisture or root development is already restricted: e.g., sandy soils, field edges near tree lines, end rows (compacted soil), other areas of compacted soil, nutrient deficient areas, nematode-damaged areas, rootworm-damaged areas, and areas of severe weed pressure. As drought conditions worsen, leaf rolling eventually spreads throughout entire fields. To view photos of leaf rolling, go to: www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/articles.05/DroughtStress-0627.html, page 3.

Hybrids often vary for severity of leaf rolling. Side-by-side in the same field, one hybrid may exhibit severe leaf rolling while the other shows no such effects. Which is most affected by the soil moisture deficit? Some argue that the hybrid that rolls its leaves earlier may be better off because of lower transpiration rates. Others argue that the hybrid that doesn't roll its leaves as easily may simply be more drought tolerant. In practice, the leaf-rolling characteristic is only one of several drought tolerance tactics breeders can exploit (Bänzinger et al., 2000).

(Continued on Page 4)

# Weather Information Table

## Week ending Sunday July 3, 2005

| Station | Past Week Weather Summary Data: Air Temperature Hi | Lo | Avg | DFN | Precip. Total | Days | Avg 4 in Soil Temp | Accumulation April 1, 2005 thru July 3, 2005: Precipitation Total | DFN | Days | GDD Base 50°F Total | DFN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Northwest (1)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chalmers_5W | 96 | 52 | 76 | +4 | 0.98 | 4 | | 5.76 | -5.87 | 26 | 1277 | +73 |
| Valparaiso_AP_I | 93 | 51 | 76 | +5 | 0.08 | 1 | | 5.93 | -6.53 | 26 | 1185 | +133 |
| Wanatah | 95 | 49 | 76 | +5 | 0.17 | 3 | 82 | 7.33 | -4.49 | 30 | 1126 | +130 |
| Wheatfield | 94 | 52 | 76 | +5 | 0.93 | 5 | | 9.13 | -2.60 | 51 | 1193 | +164 |
| Winamac | 94 | 52 | 76 | +4 | 0.40 | 3 | 80 | 6.44 | -5.35 | 34 | 1222 | +134 |
| **North Central(2)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plymouth | 94 | 52 | 75 | +3 | 0.25 | 3 | | 5.09 | -7.19 | 30 | 1149 | +13 |
| South_Bend | 95 | 48 | 77 | +6 | 0.38 | 3 | | 4.22 | -7.32 | 28 | 1214 | +182 |
| Young_America | 93 | 52 | 75 | +2 | 0.40 | 3 | | 8.85 | -2.48 | 29 | 1246 | +144 |
| **Northeast (3)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Columbia_City | 94 | 54 | 75 | +5 | 3.99 | 4 | 79 | 8.73 | -2.90 | 33 | 1129 | +151 |
| Fort_Wayne | 95 | 53 | 76 | +3 | 0.73 | 3 | | 6.09 | -4.68 | 35 | 1181 | +94 |
| **West Central(4)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Greencastle | 91 | 55 | 76 | +1 | 1.00 | 1 | | 12.65 | -0.03 | 27 | 1202 | -80 |
| Perrysville | 96 | 51 | 77 | +4 | 0.16 | 3 | 85 | 8.15 | -4.39 | 26 | 1360 | +173 |
| Spencer_Ag | 91 | 57 | 76 | +3 | 0.61 | 2 | | 12.06 | -1.22 | 32 | 1203 | +19 |
| Terre_Haute_AFB | 94 | 54 | 78 | +4 | 0.00 | 0 | | 10.92 | -1.45 | 30 | 1369 | +93 |
| W_Lafayette_6NW | 95 | 48 | 75 | +3 | 0.31 | 2 | 83 | 5.83 | -5.84 | 30 | 1286 | +177 |
| **Central (5)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eagle_Creek_AP | 93 | 57 | 77 | +3 | 0.62 | 2 | | 9.91 | -1.68 | 31 | 1421 | +158 |
| Greenfield | 93 | 56 | 76 | +3 | 2.04 | 3 | | 12.65 | +0.35 | 34 | 1247 | +56 |
| Indianapolis_AP | 93 | 58 | 78 | +4 | 0.26 | 1 | | 10.79 | -0.80 | 30 | 1366 | +103 |
| Indianapolis_SE | 94 | 56 | 76 | +2 | 0.72 | 3 | | 10.14 | -1.68 | 29 | 1267 | +29 |
| Tipton_Ag | 92 | 53 | 74 | +3 | 1.06 | 2 | 81 | 10.15 | -1.45 | 31 | 1145 | +81 |
| **East Central(6)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Farmland | 95 | 54 | 74 | +2 | 1.57 | 4 | 73 | 8.92 | -2.95 | 32 | 1148 | +122 |
| New_Castle | 90 | 56 | 74 | +3 | 1.02 | 4 | | 12.01 | -0.84 | 26 | 1033 | -20 |
| **Southwest (7)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Evansville | 94 | 60 | 80 | +3 | 0.00 | 0 | | 9.34 | -3.29 | 24 | 1531 | +8 |
| Freelandville | 93 | 60 | 79 | +4 | 0.03 | 1 | | 9.80 | -3.19 | 26 | 1444 | +114 |
| Shoals | 94 | 60 | 79 | +5 | 0.91 | 4 | | 12.17 | -1.69 | 37 | 1417 | +145 |
| Stendal | 95 | 61 | 80 | +4 | 0.13 | 1 | | 10.80 | -3.37 | 26 | 1544 | +133 |
| Vincennes_5NE | 95 | 57 | 79 | +4 | 0.43 | 3 | 81 | 13.48 | +0.49 | 31 | 1501 | +171 |
| **South Central(8)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Leavenworth | 94 | 63 | 79 | +5 | 0.04 | 1 | | 9.95 | -4.08 | 27 | 1445 | +172 |
| Oolitic | 93 | 59 | 77 | +4 | 0.94 | 2 | 82 | 12.10 | -1.10 | 33 | 1268 | +66 |
| Tell_City | 95 | 64 | 80 | +5 | 0.00 | 0 | | 10.48 | -3.67 | 23 | 1640 | +213 |
| **Southeast (9)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brookville | 96 | 59 | 78 | +6 | 2.19 | 4 | | 11.20 | -1.28 | 28 | 1287 | +177 |
| Milan_5NE | 93 | 58 | 77 | +5 | 1.85 | 4 | | 11.95 | -0.53 | 43 | 1276 | +166 |
| Scottsburg | 95 | 59 | 78 | +4 | 0.92 | 4 | | 11.95 | -0.88 | 33 | 1400 | +82 |

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.



The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
www.awis.com

## Jumping On To The Drought Bandwagon (Continued)

Research cited by Bänzinger et al. (2000) suggests that leaf rolling is not simply a form of wilting, but rather is a response to a growth regulating hormone (absciscic acid or ABA) produced in the roots and translocated to the leaves during the early stages of soil moisture deficits before leaf turgor loss and wilting actually occur. As such, the initial onset of leaf rolling may well be a protective mechanism to minimize excessive transpiration.

An associated response to ABA transport to the leaves during the early stages of drought stress is the closure of the leaf stomata (openings in the leaves that allow carbon dioxide into the leaf for photosynthesis and water out of the leaf for transpiration). Closing the stomata helps reduce the transpiration rate of the leaves and temper the loss of leaf cell turgor pressure, but occurs at the cost of lower rates of photosynthesis (carbohydrate production or carbon fixation) due to restricted carbon dioxide movement into the leaves.

As severe heat and drought stress continues, lower transpiration rates due to leaf rolling and stomata closure can unfortunately increase leaf temperatures to potentially damaging levels that may eventually result in leaf death. Low plant turgor pressure also limits cell expansion and, over extended periods of drought stress, can result in smaller leaves and shorter stalk internodes (i.e., a smaller photosynthetic factory).

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R.L. (Bob) Nielsen Department of Agronomy, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054. Email address: rnielsen@purdue.edu



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