USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 17

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Hurricane Dennis brought some much needed precipitation to many areas of the state last week, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The rain helped relieve dry soil conditions in some areas. However, deficient soil moisture remains a major concern for farmers. Corn and soybean condition improved during the week. More rain is needed as many corn fields have entered into the critical pollination period of development, along with soybean plants starting to set pods. Spraying for insects continued in some corn and soybean fields.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 3.7 **days suitable for fieldwork.** Corn **condition** is rated 39 percent good to excellent compared with 75 percent last year at this time. Sixty-four percent of the corn acreage has **silked** compared with 79 percent last year and 51 percent for the 5-year average. By area, corn silked is 57 percent complete in the north, 68 percent complete in the central region and 72 percent complete in the south. Five percent of the corn acreage has reached the **dough** stage compared with 9 percent last year and 4 percent for the average. Sixty-two percent of the soybean acreage is **blooming** compared with 64 percent last year and 50 percent for the average. Twelve percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 20 percent last year and 13 percent for the average. Soybean **condition** is rated 43 percent good to excellent compared with 69 percent last year.

Ninety-eight percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **harvested** compared with 99 percent last year and 93 percent for the 5-year average. Second cutting of **alfalfa hay** is 79 percent complete compared with 65 percent last year and 67 percent for the average.

Major activities during the week included cleaning up and repairing equipment, monitoring fields for insects, 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 improved and is rated 1 percent excellent, 27 percent good, 40 percent fair, 23 percent poor and 9 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	64	31	79	51
Corn in Dough	5	1	9	4
Soybeans Blooming	62	46	64	50
Soybeans Podding	12	2	20	13
Winter Wheat Harvested	98	86	99	93
Alfalfa Second Cutting	79	69	65	67

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
	Percent				
Corn	6	18	37	35	4
Soybeans	5	14	38	39	4
Pasture	9	23	40	27	1

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	16	37	1
Short	34	45	14
Adequate	47	18	76
Surplus	3	0	9
Subsoil			
Very Short	18	24	1
Short	38	47	15
Adequate	44	29	78
Surplus	0	0	6
Days Suitable	3.7	6.8	5.0

CONTACT INFORMATION

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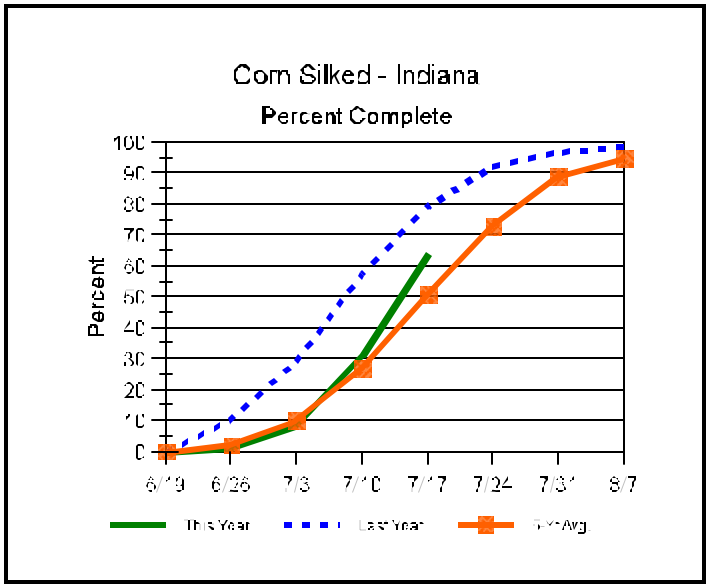
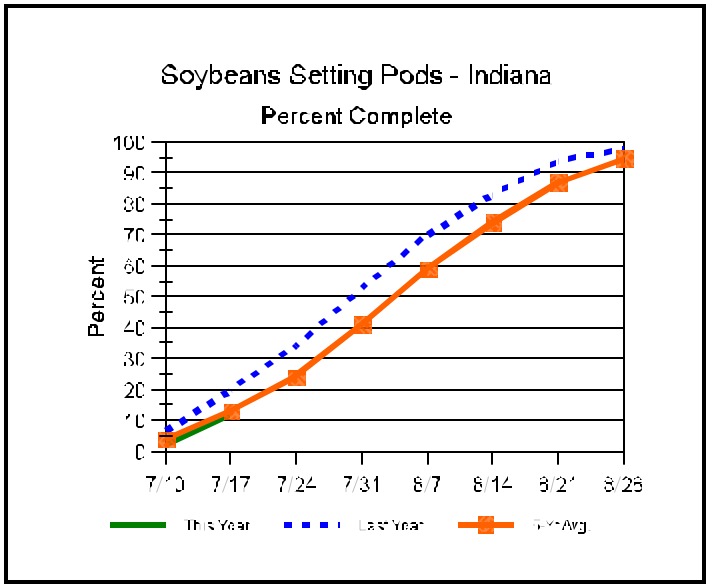
http://www.nass.usda.gov/in/index.htm

Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Indiana State Update from USDA Public Soybean Rust Web Site

Updated 7/13/05, Dr. Greg Shaner, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University.

Observations

No soybean rust symptoms have been reported in Indiana. Sentinel plots are being scouted weekly or twice weekly. Brown spot is evident in some fields, especially those that were planted early, but incidence and severity of this disease are lighter than normal owing to the dry conditions. In fields where unifoliolate leaves and the first trifoliolate leaves have been shed, brown spot incidence may actually have diminished because infections have not spread to upper leaves. New lesions on upper leaves appear as small brown spots, with no surrounding necrosis. Spider mites and soybean aphids have been detected in some fields. More information about mites and aphids can be found in Purdue's on-line Pest & Crop newsletter, available at http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/ext_newsletters.html.

Growth Stages

As of July 10, 46% of Indiana soybean fields were in bloom and 2% were podding. Plants in many fields seem shorter than normal. Many sentinel plots are in full bloom or pod development.

Management

Spores of what appear to be Phakopsora pachyrhizi have been found in one trap in Tennessee (Jackson) and another in Kentucky (Warren County). It is difficult to assess the significance of the findings of spores in traps. These traps sample a very small volume of air. So the finding of even a few spores suggests that fields in the general area of these traps would also have been exposed to spores, perhaps a great many. It remains to be seen whether any of these spores infected soybean. If infections did occur, it may be several more days before these are evident. Given the fact that known soybean rust is still confined to the Deep South and the uncertainty of the consequences of finding a few spores in Tennessee and Kentucky, it is probably premature to apply fungicides to soybean in Indiana for control of rust. If a fungicide is applied too far in advance of initial infection, the period of effective control is diminished and the likelihood that a second treatment will be required is much greater.

Forecast Outlook

Tropical storm Cindy may have dispersed inoculum within the South. Hurricane/tropical storm hurricane Dennis passed over known areas of rust and made its way into Indiana. However, the reports of rust in soybean and kudzu from southwest Georgia, southwest Alabama, and Florida indicate that there is still no widespread outbreak of the disease that would provide a large number of spores that could be carried by wind into the Midwest.

Scouting Recommendations

Because Dennis could bring light spore showers into the Midwest, scouting in Indiana fields should intensify. If inoculum is brought in by Dennis,

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday July 17, 2005

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	April 1, 2005 thru July 17, 2005 Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	94	55	77	+3	1.02	4		6.87	-6.51	31	1631	+88
Valparaiso_AP_I	89	60	77	+5	0.19	2		6.33	-7.98	29	1542	+171
Wanatah	93	57	77	+6	0.64	4	83	8.25	-5.53	35	1483	+177
Wheatfield	90	60	77	+4	1.64	7		11.38	-2.17	63	1540	+194
Winamac	89	56	77	+5	0.52	5	78	7.14	-6.43	40	1579	+172
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	89	60	77	+4	0.77	6		6.27	-7.94	37	1498	+31
South_Bend	90	61	79	+7	0.46	4		5.23	-8.06	33	1582	+228
Young_America	87	59	75	+2	1.20	6		10.53	-2.49	36	1578	+145
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	87	61	76	+5	1.15	4	80	10.18	-3.20	39	1472	+185
Fort_Wayne	91	61	78	+4	2.11	4		8.23	-4.09	40	1542	+119
West Central(4)												
Greencastle	87	61	75	-2	3.08	6		15.73	+0.70	33	1530	-106
Perrysville	89	59	76	+2	1.04	5	77	10.49	-4.14	32	1705	+175
Spencer_Ag	88	61	74	-1	2.84	6		14.90	-0.60	38	1537	+10
Terre_Haute_AFB	90	65	77	+2	1.18	5		12.10	-2.54	35	1736	+102
W_Lafayette_6NW	89	58	75	+2	1.52	4	81	7.70	-5.74	35	1621	+184
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	88	66	76	+0	2.91	6		12.82	-0.80	37	1778	+161
Greenfield	87	65	75	+0	3.46	6		16.14	+1.41	41	1588	+51
Indianapolis_AP	88	66	77	+2	1.49	5		12.45	-1.17	36	1735	+118
Indianapolis_SE	88	65	75	-2	1.36	6		11.50	-2.53	35	1602	+8
Tipton_Ag	89	55	75	+2	2.44	6	80	12.71	-0.77	38	1469	+80
East Central (6)												
Farmland	87	60	75	+3	0.69	5	74	9.62	-3.96	38	1480	+135
New_Castle	86	60	74	+0	2.38	5		14.41	-0.40	32	1358	-18
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	92	69	76	-3	1.47	6		10.92	-3.58	31	1912	-7
Freelandville	90	66	75	-3	2.62	6		12.44	-2.51	34	1803	+107
Shoals	91	65	75	+0	2.15	6		14.37	-1.71	44	1776	+152
Stendal	93	64	74	-3	2.46	5		13.27	-2.86	32	1910	+121
Vincennes_5NE	90	65	76	-1	1.98	5	76	15.50	+0.55	37	1871	+175
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	91	66	74	-1	3.15	6		13.41	-2.84	34	1808	+185
Oolitic	89	63	74	-1	1.05	5	77	13.17	-2.07	40	1599	+56
Tell_City	93	67	76	-2	3.32	6		14.04	-2.21	30	2015	+207
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	90	63	76	+3	0.69	5		11.89	-2.65	33	1646	+201
Milan_5NE	88	64	75	+2	1.65	6		13.72	-0.82	51	1625	+180
Scottsburg	92	62	76	-1	0.77	4		12.94	-2.06	39	1751	+69

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

symptoms and signs of infection would not be evident until 5 to 10 days after the storm.

Scouting Techniques

The goal of scouting is to detect rust at a very low incidence (fewer than 5% of plants with any visible infection), when effective control with a fungicide is still possible. At least 150 leaves should be carefully examined. A recent report from Florida stated that rust development in a sentinel plot was focal. That is, there were a few "hot spots" where rust was severe, with little or no rust outside these hot spots. These spots were about 1 m in diameter. Some other rust diseases also show this focal development when the disease is first becoming established in a field. Focal development may occur when initial infections are few and scattered. Most spores produced by the first generation of pustules land near where they were produced. Thus, the first couple of generations of rust development result in intense disease in a small area-a focus. If focal development turns out to be typical of soybean rust in the U.S., the chances of finding rust in a field would be increased by examining a few plants in each of many spots rather than many plants in only a few spots. Rather than examining 15 leaves at 10 spots, it might be better to examine 5 leaves at each of 30 spots within a field. If there are areas in a field where leaves tend to be wet longer (low areas, areas shaded in the morning by woods, etc.), scouting should concentrate on these. Examine the underside of leaves because this is where pustules preferentially develop. Look in the lower to mid canopy for rust. The rust fungus requires about 9 days to progress from infection to production of a pustule. Leaves that developed after an initial infection event will not be the first to show rust, so "look low as you go". The Purdue Plant and Pest Diagnostic Laboratory web site has images and tips for recognizing soybean rust and distinguishing it from other foliar diseases. See http://www.ppdl.purdue.edu/ppdl/pubs/soybean_rust_symptoms_web.pdf

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