



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office
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Vol. 56, No. 17

CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 23

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Planting of corn made good progress, late in the week, in many areas of the state, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Warm, breezy days allowed soils to dry enough to permit tillage operations to resume. Corn planting is 5 days behind the average pace at this time and 8 days behind last year. Only a few fields of soybeans have been planted.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 3.1 days suitable for field work. Nine percent of the intended **corn** acreage has been **planted** compared with 33 percent last year and 20 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 9 percent of the corn acreage has been planted in the north, 5 percent in central region, and 15 percent in the south. Some of the early planted fields have now emerged.

Fifty-four percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed** compared with 60 percent last year and 61 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 80 percent good to excellent compared with 72 percent last year at this time. Major activities during the week included: soil preparation, applying fertilizer, preparing equipment for planting, hauling grain to market, hauling and applying manure and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 13 percent excellent, 64 percent good, 20 percent fair, 2 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Livestock remain in mostly good condition. Feeding of hay has slowed down because of improving pasture conditions.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	9	3	33	20
Winter Wheat Jointed	54	31	60	61

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	1	2	20	64	13
Winter Wheat 2006	1	2	17	63	17
Winter Wheat 2005	1	4	23	57	15

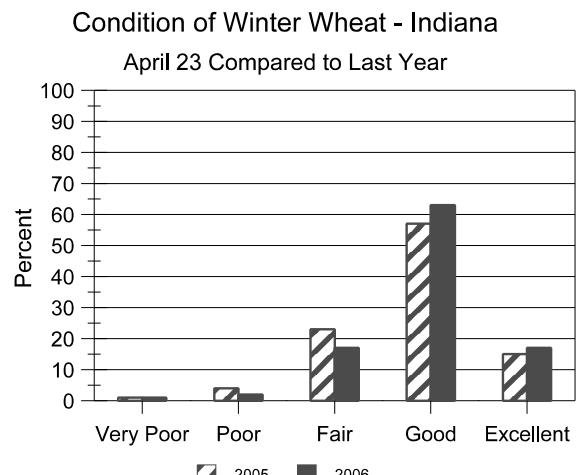
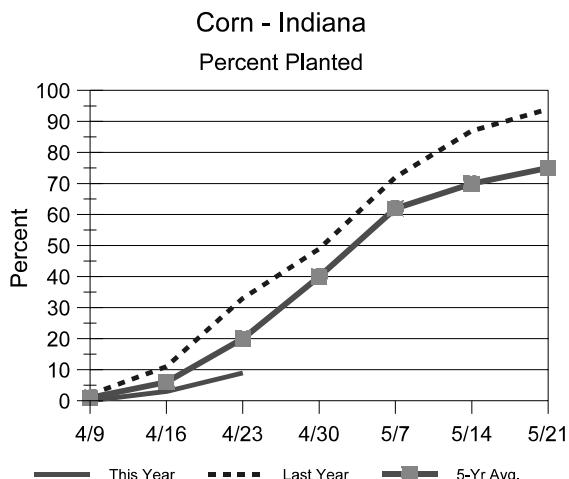
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	2
Short	3	3	5
Adequate	66	60	65
Surplus	31	37	28
Subsoil			
Very Short	1	1	1
Short	6	7	8
Adequate	71	71	79
Surplus	22	21	12
Days Suitable	3.1	3.7	4.2

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Black Cutworm Moths Blowing Into Indiana

- Recent fronts have brought with them black cutworm moths.
- Timing of scouting can be improved by tracking heat unit accumulations.
- Scouting fields and treating when necessary makes more sense than preventative applications of insecticides.
- Don't rely on insecticide-treated seed to prevent economic damage.

Most of our dutiful trapping cooperators throughout the state captured black cutworm moths this past week - refer to the "Black Cutworm Adult Pheromone Trap Report" for details. This recent flush of moths is attributed to warm wind currents from the southwestern portions of the country.

Moth arrival, along with the use of heat units to predict the beginning of larval activity, gives us an indication of potential severity of the problem and locations of concern. Thus, we are able to predict

with some degree of accuracy when and where crop damage is likely to occur based on these data. Refer to the "Weather Update" in future issues of the *Pest & Crop* as we track heat unit accumulations and predicted damage in your area.

Should one treat for black cutworm before or at planting? Because of the sporadic outbreak nature of this pest, the tried, true, and economic approach to black cutworm management is to scout fields, determine infestation and damage levels, and use a rescue treatment, if needed. Producers using insecticide-treated seed may have a false sense of security concerning black cutworm control. Certainly the systemic activity of these newer insecticides during the seedling stage should help suppress small larvae feeding on plants. However, this protection is short-lived and fields attracting egg-laying moths during multiple flights will likely experience significant damage and stand losses.

John Obermeyer, Christian Krupke, and Larry Bledsoe, Department of Entomology, Purdue University.

(Additional Article on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday April 23, 2006

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data										Accumulation					
	Air					Avg	Precipitation					April 1, 2006 thru April 23, 2006				
	Temperature			Precip.			4 in	Soil		GDD		Base 50°F				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total		Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN			
Northwest (1)																
Chalmers_5W	76	40	58	+6	1.12	1		3.55	+0.83	8	140	+68				
Francesville	75	40	57	+7	1.42	1		2.82	-0.02	8	131	+80				
Valparaiso_AP_I	76	39	58	+8	0.94	1		1.61	-1.44	6	154	+106				
Wanatah	77	39	57	+9	1.08	1	60	2.15	-0.77	8	123	+88				
Winamac	76	41	58	+7	1.02	1	56	2.58	-0.26	5	139	+88				
North Central (2)																
Plymouth	76	41	57	+6	0.87	1		1.76	-1.20	9	132	+75				
South_Bend	74	41	57	+8	1.02	2		1.73	-1.25	11	146	+105				
Young_America	77	41	58	+7	0.67	1		3.01	+0.38	9	154	+105				
Northeast (3)																
Columbia_City	78	40	56	+8	0.52	1	55	1.35	-1.43	8	115	+82				
Fort_Wayne	77	39	57	+7	1.42	1		3.93	+1.32	10	146	+101				
West Central (4)																
Greencastle	77	42	60	+7	0.55	2		3.67	+0.89	7	175	+92				
Perrysville	77	41	60	+8	1.31	2	59	3.68	+0.72	7	180	+114				
Spencer_Ag	80	43	62	+10	0.81	3		4.51	+1.49	10	188	+117				
Terre_Haute_AFB	78	39	61	+7	0.89	2		3.30	+0.38	8	217	+132				
W_Lafayette_6NW	77	41	59	+8	0.74	1	64	2.77	-0.03	8	161	+109				
Central (5)																
Eagle_Creek_AP	76	43	61	+8	0.60	1		4.77	+1.98	9	208	+131				
Greenfield	76	42	60	+8	0.65	3		5.34	+2.30	11	164	+105				
Indianapolis_AP	78	45	62	+9	0.37	2		4.22	+1.43	11	222	+145				
Indianapolis_SE	76	42	60	+7	0.36	1		4.84	+2.04	9	169	+100				
Tipton_Ag	75	39	58	+8	0.72	2	60	4.00	+1.02	13	143	+104				
East Central (6)																
Farmland	77	33	56	+7	0.61	3	58	2.85	+0.12	10	129	+93				
New_Castle	76	38	58	+8	0.49	2		3.39	+0.30	11	145	+106				
Southwest (7)																
Evansville	80	47	64	+7	2.24	5		3.17	+0.13	9	279	+139				
Freelandville	79	45	62	+8	2.33	3		3.82	+0.94	9	224	+127				
Shoals	82	44	62	+8	4.04	4		5.94	+2.86	9	224	+128				
Stendal	80	49	64	+8	2.77	3		4.45	+1.08	8	269	+154				
Vincennes_5NE	80	42	63	+8	5.36	3	61	6.85	+3.97	9	239	+142				
South Central (8)																
Leavenworth	79	47	62	+8	2.82	5		5.33	+1.80	13	237	+137				
Oolitic	79	42	60	+7	1.65	3	62	4.91	+1.89	10	186	+105				
Tell_City	81	52	65	+9	2.41	6		3.97	+0.28	11	274	+150				
Southeast (9)																
Brookville	79	42	61	+9	1.13	4		5.39	+2.51	11	180	+123				
Greensburg	77	42	61	+8	1.27	2		4.57	+1.51	9	197	+126				
Scottsburg	78	39	63	+8	2.56	4		6.40	+3.20	11	228	+131				

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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For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
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Alfalfa Weevil Damage Beginning in Southern Indiana

- Alfalfa weevil activity has begun.
- Scouting should begin now in southern Indiana.
- Damage and heat unit accumulations are the basis of management decisions.

The flowers are blooming, the farm equipment is rolling, and alfalfa weevil are beginning to feed...spring is here! Richard Huntrods, at Feldun Purdue Agricultural Center near Bedford, reported the beginning of alfalfa weevil feeding. This is as we would expect given the heat unit accumulations in those areas. In other words, it's time to start scouting alfalfa for weevil damage in the southern counties of Indiana.

Field scouting for alfalfa weevil damage should begin when approximately 200 heat units, base 48°F, have accumulated from January 1 (see "Weather Update" for locations near you). Sampling a field to determine the extent of alfalfa weevil damage and average stage of weevil development is best accomplished by walking through the field in an "M-shaped pattern." Ten alfalfa stems should be examined in each of 5 representative areas of the field for a total of 50 stems from the entire field. Consider that south

facing slopes and/or sandy soils warm sooner and should be included in the sampling. Each stem should be examined for: (1) evidence of tip feeding by alfalfa weevil larvae; (2) maturity of the stem, i.e., pre-bud, bud and/or flowers; and (3) stem length. The average size (length) of weevil larvae should also be noted. Although large alfalfa weevil larvae are relatively easy to find, small larvae are difficult to see; thus, very close examination of leaves may be required to detect "pin-hole" feeding, small black fecal pellets and small off-white larvae.

By utilizing heat unit accumulation data to determine when sampling should begin and when management action should be taken, producers can get the greatest economic return. If the application of an insecticide is required early in the weevil season, producers have the option of using a material that has good residual action. Later in the season, short residual insecticides should be used and producers should pay close attention to harvest restrictions. Management guidelines, which are based on heat unit accumulations, will be given in next week's *Pest & Crop*.

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The INDIANA CROP & WEATHER REPORT (USPS 675-770), (ISSN 0442-817X) is issued weekly April through November by the USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office, 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd, Suite B105, West Lafayette IN 47906-4145. Second Class postage paid at Lafayette IN. For information on subscribing, send request to above address. POSTMASTER: Send address change to the USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office, 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd, Suite B105, West Lafayette IN 47906-4145.
