



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 21

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Another week of rain and wet soil conditions slowed major field activities, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Ponding has occurred in low lying areas of many corn and soybean fields causing concern over poor germination and emergence. Growth and development of the major crops has been very slow. Weeds continue to be a problem in fields yet to be planted. First cutting of hay crops has been difficult this year because of frequent rain showers.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were **.9 days suitable for field work**. Seventy-seven percent of the intended **corn** acreage has been **planted** compared with 94 percent last year and 75 percent for the 5-year average. Planting of corn is about 12 days behind last year but is 1 day ahead of the 5-year average. Fifty-six percent of the corn acreage has **emerged** compared to 71 percent last year and 62 percent for the 5-year average. Thirty-seven percent of the **soybean** acreage is **planted** compared to 71 percent for last year and 56 percent for the 5-year average.

Sixty-seven percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is headed compared with 62 percent last year and 73 percent for the 5-year average.

Major activities during the week included: checking drainage tiles, chopping haylage, applying fertilizer, spraying chemicals, preparing equipment and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 16 percent excellent, 64 percent good, 16 percent fair and 4 percent poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Feedlots are muddy.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Planted	77	74	94	75
Corn Emerged	56	38	71	62
Soybeans Planted	37	32	71	56
Soybeans Emerged	15	6	33	35
Winter Wheat Headed	67	46	62	73

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Corn	2	12	40	43	3
Winter Wheat	0	4	20	56	20
Pasture	0	4	16	64	16

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	2
Short	0	0	6
Adequate	47	41	66
Surplus	53	59	26
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	2
Short	1	2	8
Adequate	65	64	73
Surplus	34	34	17
Days Suitable	0.9	2.7	3.5

CONTACT INFORMATION

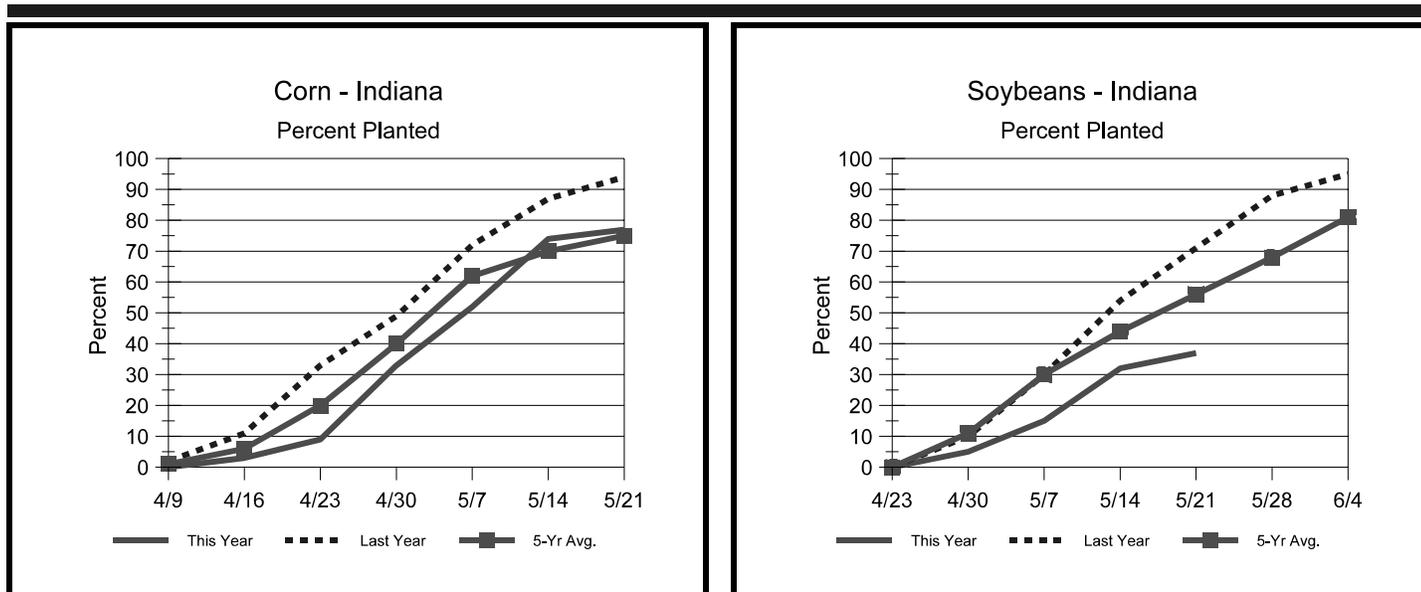
--Greg Preston, Director

--Andy Higgins, Agricultural Statistician

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http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Corn Replant Decision-Making

Crappy stands of corn (aka less than desirable) occur somewhere in Indiana every year. The recent spate of cool, rainy days does not bode well for some corn fields planted during the days immediately preceding the onset of the rainy weather. Stands of corn in river bottoms may be destroyed outright by flood waters. Poorly drained soils where ponding has occurred for four or more days are vulnerable to seedling death. Eventual drying of saturated soils often leads to severe crusting that can restrict corn emergence and result in lower than desirable plant populations. Cool, wet soils are also conducive for seedling infection by certain soil-borne diseases.

Unacceptable stand establishment in some of these fields may eventually require growers to make decisions about replanting. Deciding to replant a crappy stand of corn should be based on a number of criteria, but unfortunately the major influencing factor is often the emotion associated with looking out the kitchen window at the damaged field every morning or driving by the field every afternoon taking the kids to baseball practice.

Make a wise decision about the merits of replanting a damaged field of corn requires more than emotions. In fact, I would rather that emotions be taken out of the equation entirely. Toward that end, I developed a replant decision-making worksheet that assists growers and farm managers in making that important replant decision. The worksheet allows you to determine the damaged field's current yield potential (if left untouched), its replant yield potential, and the dollar returns (if any) from replanting the field.

The worksheet is included in a larger overall publication on corn replanting titled "Estimating Yield and Dollar

Returns From Corn Replanting". This Purdue Extension publication (AY-264-W) is available as a PDF-formatted download from the Web at <http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/pubs/AY-264-W.pdf>.

If you do not have access to the Web, stop by your local Purdue Extension county office and ask the folks there to download and print it for you.

Some of the information that is required to complete the worksheet originates from cropping records and history, including the original seeding rate and planting date for the damaged field. Some of the required worksheet inputs are frankly estimates, including what the field would have yielded under "normal" conditions if it had not been damaged and what market price you expect to receive for the grain after harvest. The expected replanting date and replanting costs are also required for the worksheet calculations.

- Recognize that the expected replanting date this year may be quite late given the amount of rainfall these fields have received in recent days, the uncertain rainy forecast for the remainder of this week, and the uncertain time required for these fields to dry enough to allow replanting.
- Also, recognize that there is no guarantee of success for late-planted replanting situations. Late-planted fields will pollinate during late summer when high temperatures and moisture deficits are more common. Late-planted fields are often more attractive to late flights of

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday May 21, 2006

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 2006 thru May 21, 2006				
							4 in	Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	74	41	53	-10	1.26	5		8.28	+1.96	21	289	-55
Francesville	74	37	53	-10	1.35	5		7.21	+1.19	22	268	-27
Valparaiso_AP_I	73	38	53	-8	0.37	2		4.43	-2.11	18	302	+27
Wanatah	74	37	53	-7	0.90	3	56	5.86	-0.39	19	246	+11
Winamac	73	37	53	-9	1.05	3	55	6.78	+0.76	16	286	-9
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	73	37	53	-10	0.79	3		6.20	-0.22	21	255	-56
South_Bend	71	35	52	-9	0.75	5		6.22	+0.26	25	282	+24
Young_America	73	41	54	-8	0.87	3		7.39	+1.40	20	324	+35
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	71	39	53	-8	1.43	5	55	7.34	+1.39	22	235	+0
Fort_Wayne	72	41	54	-7	0.94	3		8.48	+2.79	22	298	+26
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	73	39	54	-10	0.90	5		8.77	+1.82	20	326	-55
Perrysville	75	42	56	-7	0.88	5	56	7.10	+0.50	21	378	+48
Spencer_Ag	73	44	56	-7	0.91	5		9.25	+1.94	24	371	+36
Terre_Haute_AFB	74	41	55	-9	0.85	5		7.42	+0.42	23	418	+39
W_Lafayette_6NW	74	40	54	-8	1.42	6	56	7.71	+1.31	22	331	+36
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	72	45	55	-9	0.92	4		8.95	+2.52	21	415	+47
Greenfield	73	43	54	-9	1.95	6		11.78	+4.76	26	332	+4
Indianapolis_AP	73	42	55	-9	0.86	4		8.51	+2.08	23	427	+59
Indianapolis_SE	72	42	54	-10	1.01	5		9.69	+2.86	22	329	-20
Tipton_Ag	71	40	53	-8	0.86	5	59	7.91	+1.39	28	285	+23
East Central (6)												
Farmland	72	40	53	-8	0.92	5	58	8.04	+1.95	25	249	-4
New_Castle	72	42	54	-8	1.10	4		9.89	+2.80	23	289	+29
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	74	44	58	-9	0.17	4		6.19	-1.12	22	572	+68
Freelandville	74	46	57	-8	0.78	4		7.27	-0.07	21	455	+52
Shoals	75	38	56	-8	0.63	5		9.33	+1.61	23	449	+58
Stendal	76	48	60	-6	0.55	4		8.01	+0.03	23	554	+106
Vincennes_5NE	75	45	57	-8	0.77	6	55	11.33	+3.99	26	477	+74
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	72	43	56	-9	0.36	6		8.42	+0.51	29	464	+66
Oolitic	71	41	54	-9	0.69	5	59	8.85	+1.56	24	356	+4
Tell_City	74	46	59	-7	0.26	4		7.24	-0.89	25	586	+122
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	73	43	55	-7	1.23	5		10.28	+3.23	24	381	+80
Greensburg	74	43	55	-8	1.12	5		9.89	+2.50	24	407	+66
Scottsburg	72	41	55	-9	0.55	4		10.18	+2.91	25	456	+49

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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The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
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Corn Replant Decision-Making (Continued)

European corn borer, so replant hybrids with Bt-Corn borer traits would be worth considering. Late-planted fields can also be more susceptible to fall frost damage if the corn does not reach physiological maturity prior to the occurrence of damaging temperatures, so choose replant hybrid maturities wisely (Nielsen & Thomison, 2002).

Finally, some information is required from the damaged field itself. You will need an estimate of the surviving plant population that is representative of the damaged areas of the field. Depending on the nature of the crappy stand, you may also need estimates of after-damage stand uniformity and plant defoliation.

I will be the first to admit that it takes some time and patience to complete the replant worksheet; both of which are usually in short supply at the time the decision is being made. Recognize, though, that much of the replanting that occurs every year throughout the state is based primarily on emotion and not on estimates of economic returns. Taking the time to work through the steps of my replanting worksheet will help clarify the economic returns (or losses) to replanting and reduce the influence of emotions in this important crop management decision.

Related References

Nielsen, Bob. 2002 (rev). **Estimating Yield and Dollar Returns From Corn Replanting.** Purdue Univ. Cooperative Extension Service publication AY-264-W. Online at <http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/pubs/AY-264-W.pdf>. [URL verified 5/15/06].

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