



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 23

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Farmers encountered another week with very little to no precipitation allowing a great deal of corn and soybeans to be harvested, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn harvest is only running about four days behind the record pace of 35 percent established in 1991. Livestock producers continue to bale corn stalks and soybeans as forage to help supplement the short hay supply. Some producers are being forced to sell livestock due to the lack of hay and poor pasture conditions.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 7.0 **days suitable for field work**. **Corn condition** is rated 50 percent good to excellent compared with 73 percent last year at this time. Seventy-eight percent of the corn acreage is **mature** compared with 56 percent last year and 60 percent for the 5-year average. Twenty-one percent of the corn acreage has been **harvested** compared with 5 percent last year and 9 percent for the 5-year average. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging about 19 percent.

Soybean condition is rated 46 percent good to excellent compared with 77 percent last year at this time. Eighty-one percent of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 54 percent last year and 69 percent for the 5-year average. Thirteen percent of the soybean crop has been **harvested** compared with 2 percent last year and 10 percent for the 5-year average. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging about 12 percent.

Four percent of the **winter wheat** has been seeded at this time compared with 2 percent last year and 4 percent for the 5-year average. **Tobacco harvest** is now 64 percent complete compared with 59 percent last year and 71 percent for the 5-year average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 9% good, 17% fair, 25% poor, and 49% very poor. Livestock remain in mostly good condition at this time.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Mature	78	59	56	60
Corn Harvested	21	12	5	9
Soybeans Shedding Lvs	81	64	54	69
Soybeans Harvested	13	4	2	10
Winter Wheat Planted	4	NA	2	4
Tobacco Harvested	64	36	59	71

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	6	13	31	41	9
Soybean	7	15	32	40	6
Pasture	49	25	17	9	0

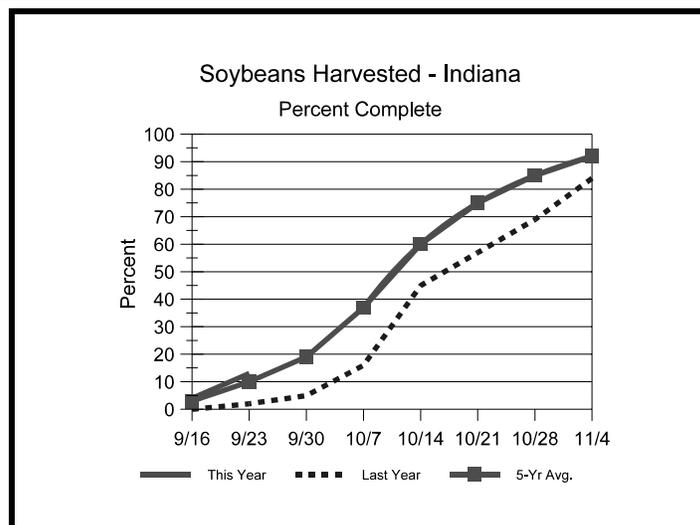
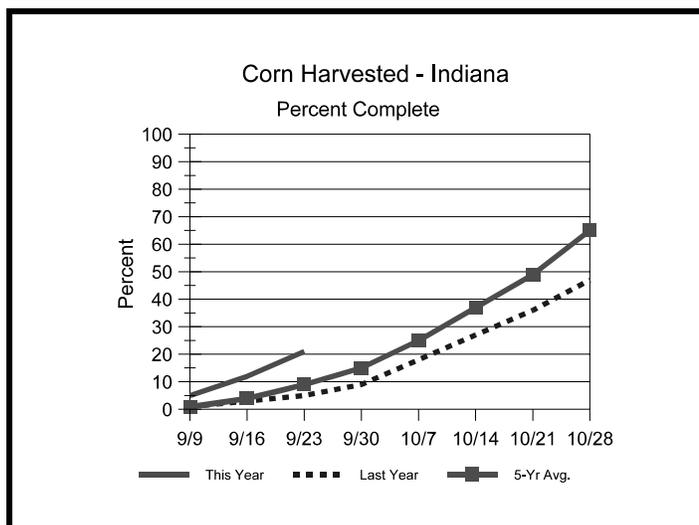
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	38	32	0
Short	31	25	1
Adequate	31	42	66
Surplus	0	1	33
Subsoil			
Very Short	39	34	0
Short	28	29	5
Adequate	33	36	78
Surplus	0	1	17
Days Suitable	7.0	6.4	2.8

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

If The Option Exists, It's Better To Put Soybeans In The Bin

Written Thursday, September 13, 2007

Contrary to what's been said and all the hype about corn this growing season, the marketplace looks like it will pay more to farmers who store soybeans.

A Purdue University expert projects soybean prices to be between \$8.25-\$8.50 at harvest time and given the right circumstances pushing \$10.

"Add a dollar a bushel during storage season which will push prices into the \$9-\$9.50 range and if there are growing problems in South America and export demand from China is stronger, we could see double digit soybean prices up in the \$10 range," said Chris Hurt, a Purdue Extension ag economist.

Indiana and Ohio corn yields are up from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's August estimate and when looking at the marketplace, Hurt projects corn prices around much of Indiana and Ohio to be in the \$3 range plus or minus.

"It does look like corn prices will increase throughout the storage season, probably 50-60 cents," Hurt said. "Both corn and soybeans will have returns for storage capacity, but the priority goes now to soybean storage for two reasons.

"First, soybeans have a stronger storage return than what corn does and secondly from a speculative standpoint, soybeans appear to have more opportunity for upside gain than corn."

Indiana soybean yield estimates were dropped by four bushels per acre to 43 bushels, according to USDA's September crop report.

"That's about five bushels under trend and that was a disappointing surprise for us here in Indiana," Hurt said. "Late season diseases were a problem for soybeans, as well as the lack of rain in southern parts of the state."

In Ohio the report shows no change in soybean yields, remaining at 44 bushels per acre.

"Again, that's about two to three bushels under trend yield for Ohio," Hurt said. "We worried a great deal about the droughty conditions this summer here in the Eastern Corn Belt."

Nationally, soybeans changed slightly, dropping one tenth of a bushel to 41.4 bushels while corn yield increased three bushels per acre on average.

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday September 23, 2007

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2007 thru September 23, 2007				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
							Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	89	43	67	+4	0.00	0		19.83	-1.66	48	3112	+167
Francesville	89	46	68	+6	0.00	0		24.00	+2.30	54	2976	+271
Valparaiso_AP_I	90	45	69	+6	0.00	0		17.32	-5.82	45	3075	+386
Wanatah	90	38	66	+4	0.00	0	75	22.48	+0.07	56	2835	+266
Winamac	89	44	69	+6	0.00	0	71	23.68	+1.98	57	3006	+301
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	87	45	67	+4	0.00	0		28.54	+6.45	65	2922	+78
South_Bend	88	48	69	+7	0.00	0		23.18	+1.72	54	3129	+460
Young_America	90	45	69	+6	0.00	0		17.60	-3.37	56	3147	+351
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	87	43	66	+4	0.00	0	66	17.80	-3.26	62	2913	+367
Fort_Wayne	87	43	68	+5	0.00	0		21.40	+2.06	57	3159	+364
West Central(4)												
Greencastle	87	43	67	+2	0.00	0		18.95	-5.42	50	3147	-3
Perrysville	93	46	73	+9	0.00	0	79	16.72	-6.22	49	3453	+521
Spencer_Ag	89	45	69	+5	0.00	0		23.05	-1.52	48	3308	+349
Terre_Haute_AFB	88	47	70	+5	0.00	0		20.74	-2.29	48	3466	+339
W_Lafayette_6NW	91	49	71	+7	0.00	0	74	20.38	-1.10	55	3204	+423
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	89	50	71	+6	0.00	0		15.67	-5.87	52	3644	+544
Greenfield	89	43	68	+4	0.00	0		15.97	-7.59	62	3323	+341
Indianapolis_AP	89	51	72	+8	0.00	0		14.28	-7.26	49	3720	+620
Indianapolis_SE	89	47	70	+4	0.00	0		17.51	-4.50	53	3325	+232
Tipton_Ag	89	44	68	+6	0.00	0	70	17.70	-4.11	61	3098	+401
East Central(6)												
Farmland	88	40	66	+4	0.00	0	70	19.81	-1.44	60	2998	+363
New_Castle	87	44	67	+5	0.00	0		17.71	-4.84	46	3071	+371
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	93	51	73	+6	0.00	0		13.23	-8.48	45	4101	+509
Freelandville	90	50	72	+7	0.00	0		16.43	-6.18	48	3687	+457
Shoals	93	42	70	+5	0.00	0		17.06	-7.39	42	3473	+340
Stendal	95	53	74	+9	0.00	0		16.02	-8.32	50	4086	+698
Vincennes_5NE	93	51	74	+9	0.00	0	79	18.24	-4.37	50	3856	+626
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	90	49	71	+6	0.00	0		17.75	-7.01	57	3776	+664
Oolitic	91	45	70	+6	0.00	0	73	15.44	-7.97	42	3441	+448
Tell_City	90	53	72	+5	0.07	1		20.18	-4.75	41	4006	+539
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	92	43	70	+6	0.00	0		13.60	-9.12	40	3538	+695
Greensburg	90	47	71	+7	0.00	0		16.46	-6.47	47	3576	+671
Scottsburg	92	44	70	+5	0.00	0		18.41	-4.88	44	3620	+402

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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If The Option Exists, It's Better To Put Soybeans In The Bin (Continued)

Corn yields for Indiana were up three bushels to 160 bushels per acre on average and Ohio corn yields were up seven bushels to 150 bushels per acre from USDA's August crop report.

"Indiana has a slightly better than average corn crop while Ohio suffered through severe drought conditions in portions of their major growing areas and they are probably two to four bushels under their state average," Hurt said.

"Overall, Indiana came out with a slightly above normal corn crop but the soybean crop got knicked at the end. Ohio conditions were such that both corn and soybeans were below trend yields, but not as substantial as originally thought," he said.

One question that many have pondered over the growing season has been answered from this report.

"There's going to be plenty of corn to meet the needs," Hurt said. "In fact, looking back, we have shifted a little too much land over to corn but this is the nature of the market.

"Whatever crops the world needs in 2008, the market place will bid very aggressively for those crops and direct the ways which farmers shift their crops. Right now, there will be about an 8 percent increase in the shift to more soybeans in the United States and about a 4 percent decline in corn acreage."

Source: Ag Answers, Business and Science of Agriculture, An Ohio State Extension and Purdue Extension Partnership, <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/agcomm/aganswers/story.asp?storyID=4606>.

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