



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 10

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Intermittent rain showers slowed field operations again this week, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The heaviest amounts of rain fell across central and southern portions of the state with some areas receiving nearly 3 inches. Planting progress of corn is about 13 days later than last year and 20 days behind the average pace while planting of soybeans is about 12 days later than last year and 17 days behind the 5-year average.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 1.6 **days suitable for field work** during the week. Eleven percent of the intended **corn** acreage has been **planted** compared with 57 percent last year and 70 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 19 percent has been planted in the north, 6 percent in the central region, and 8 percent in the south. Two percent of the corn crop has **emerged** compared with 17 percent last year and 29 percent for the 5-year average. Two percent of the intended **soybean** acreage has been **planted** compared with 17 percent last year and 31 percent for the 5-year average.

Eighty-two percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is **jointed** compared with 84 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-year average. Fifteen percent of the winter wheat is **heading** compared with 11 percent last year and 25 percent for the 5-year average. **Winter wheat condition** is rated 79 percent good to excellent compared with 72 percent last year at this time.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 17 percent excellent, 57 percent good, 21 percent fair, 3 percent poor, and 2 percent very poor. Pasture condition continues to improve with the warmer temperatures and ample moisture. Livestock remain in mostly good condition.

### CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn Planted	11	5	57	70
Corn Emerged	2	NA	17	29
Soybeans Planted	2	NA	17	31
Winter Wheat Jointed	82	62	84	90
Winter Wheat Headed	15	NA	11	25

### CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	2	3	21	57	17
Winter Wheat	1	2	18	57	22

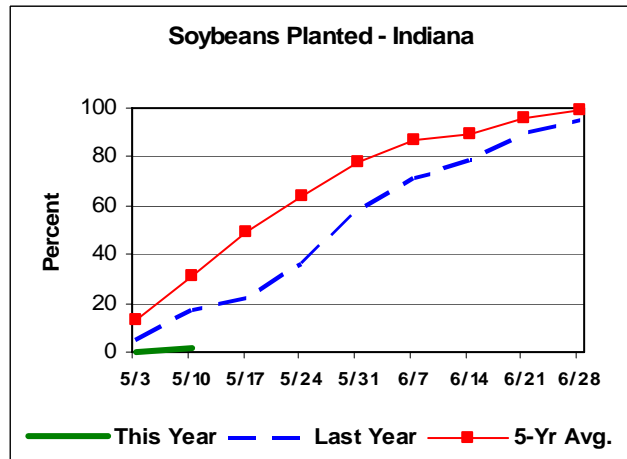
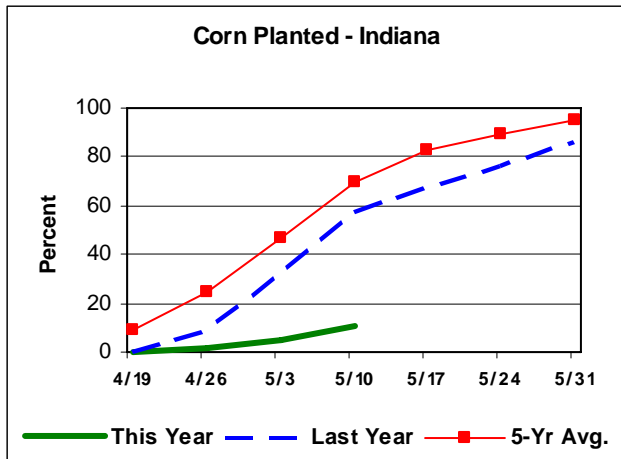
### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	0	0	0
Adequate	38	33	45
Surplus	62	67	55
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	1	1	1
Adequate	53	51	59
Surplus	46	48	40
<b>Days Suitable</b>	1.6	1.5	3.5

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Crop Progress



## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### Increased Risk of Foliar Diseases in Late-Planted Corn

Rainfall patterns have delayed corn planting throughout much of the state. Late planting increases the risk of damaging levels of certain foliar diseases, particularly gray leaf spot, southern leaf blight, and northern leaf blight.

Several factors can contribute to this increased risk:

- 1) When there is a mix of fields planted early near fields planted late, the early fields can be a source of spores for late-planted field. The early fields act a bit like "Typhoid Mary".
- 2) Compared to early fields, late-planted corn is often at an earlier stage of crop development during periods of spore release and leaf blighting. Since leaf blighting early in plant development is more harmful to yields than late-season blighting, the late-planted fields have the potential to be hit harder than earlier fields.

Fields not planted until the last week of May or into June have the highest risk of foliar disease. Producers planting corn late this spring should use hybrids with adequate levels of resistance to gray leaf spot. Selecting hybrids with good resistance to gray leaf spot is especially important if the field is under conservation tillage (30% or more residue cover) and has had corn anytime in the last two years. Also, if a field has a recent history of southern leaf blight or northern leaf blight, consider those diseases in hybrid selection.

Of course, many producers have already purchased seed for this spring. If a field is sown late and the hybrid doesn't have substantial resistance to the diseases mentioned above, a fungicide application is

more likely to be cost-effective. Figure 1 lists the factors that increase the likelihood of getting a positive economic return from a fungicide application in corn. The more of those that are in place, the more likely a corn field is to benefit economically from a fungicide application.

If you do choose to use fungicides, it is always a good idea to leave at least one untreated strip in the field in order to see if the fungicide provided any benefit. Sometimes it will but often it won't, and getting on-farm evidence helps in making future farming decisions.

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### Risk Assessment to Determine Likely Response to Foliar Fungicides in Corn

#### Factors that Increase Risk

- Susceptible hybrid (primarily GLS)
- Continuous corn
- No-till
- Late planting
- High plant population and/or yield potential
- Irrigation
- Disease-favorable weather forecasted
- Disease activity at tasseling
- Field history of disease and lodging



# Weather Information Table

## Week Ending Sunday May 10, 2009

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation						
	Air				Precip.			April 1, 2009 thru May 10, 2009						
	Temperature				Precip.			4in			Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN		
<b>Northwest (1)</b>														
Chalmers_5W	79	40	58	-1	0.10	3		5.41	+0.48	18	190	-18		
Francesville	78	37	58	+1	0.23	3		4.69	-0.12	18	167	-3		
Valparaiso_AP_I	78	40	59	+3	0.30	4		4.69	-0.53	17	188	+30		
Wanatah	80	37	58	+4	0.21	5	61	4.91	-0.10	19	139	+10		
Winamac	77	42	59	+2	0.53	4		5.22	+0.41	21	178	+8		
<b>North Central(2)</b>														
Plymouth	76	41	59	+1	0.28	3		5.56	+0.46	22	176	-6		
South_Bend	77	39	59	+4	0.18	1		4.39	-0.47	16	202	+58		
Young_America	75	41	58	+1	0.16	2		5.05	+0.38	16	204	+40		
<b>Northeast (3)</b>														
Fort_Wayne	73	41	59	+2	0.31	3		6.33	+1.85	18	218	+64		
Kendallville	77	44	59	+3	0.25	3		4.09	-0.37	20	205	+58		
<b>West Central(4)</b>														
Greencastle	75	40	60	+0	1.30	3		10.07	+4.87	20	250	+17		
Perrysville	80	42	60	+2	0.98	3	58	7.53	+2.36	18	249	+53		
Spencer_Ag	73	42	60	+2	0.95	3		9.05	+3.50	21	257	+55		
Terre_Haute_AFB	75	45	61	+2	0.54	3		8.26	+2.90	17	322	+90		
W_Lafayette_6NW	79	39	59	+2	0.22	2	62	6.85	+1.84	20	218	+48		
<b>Central (5)</b>														
Eagle_Creek_AP	73	47	61	+1	1.12	3		8.52	+3.52	21	283	+62		
Greenfield	72	45	59	+1	1.52	3		10.04	+4.56	21	225	+36		
Indianapolis_AP	72	46	61	+2	1.02	2		8.80	+3.80	17	305	+84		
Indianapolis_SE	71	44	59	-1	1.03	3		8.78	+3.57	20	234	+28		
Tipton_Ag	75	45	58	+2	0.97	3	64	9.35	+4.16	20	204	+59		
<b>East Central(6)</b>														
Farmland	73	44	58	+3	1.41	3	59	8.30	+3.53	20	213	+75		
New_Castle	70	44	58	+2	0.64	3		7.35	+1.82	17	205	+62		
<b>Southwest (7)</b>														
Evansville	79	50	64	+2	2.04	5		8.78	+3.22	21	392	+60		
Freelandville	76	47	62	+2	1.08	3		8.86	+3.39	20	301	+48		
Shoals_8S	76	41	60	+0	1.57	4		10.43	+4.67	20	276	+29		
Stendal	79	48	64	+3	2.30	4		11.27	+5.16	21	390	+103		
Vincennes_5NE	77	49	62	+2	1.37	4	66	8.93	+3.46	20	313	+60		
<b>South Central(8)</b>														
Leavenworth	74	48	62	+2	2.92	5		9.20	+3.05	23	328	+75		
Oolitic	74	47	61	+3	1.07	4	62	7.66	+2.13	22	280	+63		
Tell_City	76	51	63	+2	2.88	5		9.61	+3.20	18	357	+56		
<b>Southeast (9)</b>														
Brookville	75	46	63	+5	0.62	3		6.03	+0.71	19	292	+116		
Greensburg	73	44	62	+3	0.78	3		6.84	+1.21	20	301	+96		
Seymour	73	46	61	+2	1.35	3		7.78	+2.40	20	268	+43		

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DFN = Departure From Normal.  
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.

For more weather information, visit [www.awis.com](http://www.awis.com)  
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## Soybean Seed Quality Consideration

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Only a year ago the quality of the soybean seed germination was a hot topic going into planting season. Reports were coming in of varying germination (70-80%) soybeans all across the soybean growing regions. I talked to the PDA lab last week and found that most of the beans that they tested for sale in Pa were testing at or near the 90% germination level. This is great news particularly with the high price of soybeans and the fact that the grower will receive a good quality product. In our studies over the last few years, established soybean populations struggled from the time they dropped out of the planter to the time they came up. In some cases, a 30% loss from seed drop to emergence was observed, while losses from pop up to mid season were only 4%. If there aren't any pests, where might these losses come from?

Soybean handling comes into play and while we do not have all the data to support this, handling might be a cause. Dr. Elwood Hatley, retired Extension Specialist, often cautioned growers that each time a seed bag is dropped 2% or more of the germination can suffer. Recall that the soybean seed has two halves that are easily broken. Those halves are the

structures of the plant that end up being the cotyledons. When dry they easily separate and germination is lost. So if you go to the dealer and toss the bag on truck(1), get home and toss the bag on a old hay wagon(2), then toss the bag back onto the truck(3), then man handle the bag to load the planter(4); an 8% minimum loss could occur in the soybeans. With that in mind the point is to handle them like you handle eggs from the chicken house.

One final note dealing with the weather, if you have alfalfa to get off, fungicide to get on wheat, corn and beans to plant, manure to spread and the rain finds you behind the game, then I would put less priority on early planting soybeans and get the other activities out of the way. Soybeans have a large window in which to establish without significant yield losses. Be sure to compensate seed populations for germination loss and soil conditions.

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