



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 25

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Farmers were making good progress harvesting both corn and soybeans early in the week until rain forced them out of the fields on Thursday, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. As of October 20, a new record low harvest pace had been set for soybeans with only 34 percent harvested. The old record low for that date was 39 percent harvested in 1990. Corn harvest is running about 23 days behind the 5-year average pace and soybean harvest is about 15 days behind average.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 4.3 **days suitable for field work** during the week. **Corn condition** is rated 62 percent good to excellent compared with 59 percent last year at this time. Twenty-one percent of the corn crop has been **harvested** compared to 56 percent last year and 63 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 20 percent of the corn acreage has been harvested in the north, 20 percent in the central region and 28 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging about 25 percent.

Soybean condition is rated 62 percent good to excellent. Fifty-two percent of the soybean acreage has been **harvested** compared with 83 percent last year and 82 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 53 percent of the soybean acreage has been harvested in the north, 61 percent in the central region and 33 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging about 14 percent.

Forty-three percent of the **Winter Wheat** acreage has been **planted** compared to 85 percent last year and 83 percent for the 5-year average. Eleven percent of the winter wheat has emerged compared with 55 percent last year and 52 percent for the 5-year average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is now rated 58 percent good to excellent compared with 26 percent last year at this time. Livestock remain in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn Mature	87	77	97	99
Corn Harvested	21	15	56	63
Soybeans Harvested	52	27	83	82
Winter Wheat Planted	43	22	85	83
Winter Wheat Emerged	11	4	55	52

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	3	8	27	48	14
Soybean	3	8	27	49	13
Pasture	2	9	31	47	11

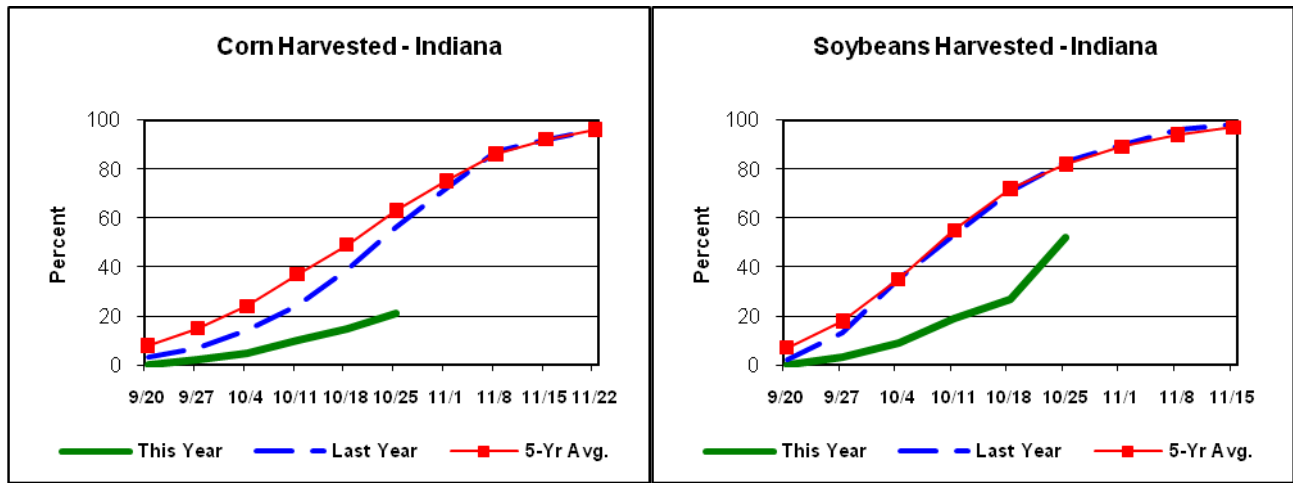
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	8
Short	2	3	26
Adequate	53	56	62
Surplus	45	41	4
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	1	14
Short	6	9	34
Adequate	68	70	49
Surplus	26	20	3
Days Suitable	4.3	2.5	5.2

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

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Moldy Corn Could Cause More Problems if Not Stored Properly

October 21, 2009

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - Corn farmers across Illinois, Indiana and Ohio are battling moldy corn, which causes challenges from a grain handling and storage standpoint. A Purdue University researcher offers tips and advice for farmers in the Eastern Cornbelt dealing with Diplodia, Gibberella and other corn ear rots.

Richard Stroshine, a professor in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, said that if farmers try to operate like they normally do during harvest this year, it could cause some major problems during the storage of this year's crop.

"I had one elevator manager tell me he hasn't seen anything like this since 1974," Stroshine said. "Farmers are going to have to take extra precaution in storing and drying down their grain this year."

Questions about moldy corn and reports of damage are coming into the university from all across the state. Stroshine said he talked with one farmer who estimated 15 percent of the kernels in his harvested corn were damaged by mold.

Farmers who have moldy corn should remove as much of the fine material or broken pieces of corn as possible, dry the grain down to 14 to 14.5 percent moisture, and realize it's not going to store as well as it has in previous years, Stroshine said.

If fines aren't removed from the corn crop, they will impede airflow and promote the growth of mold within the grain bin, he explained.

"Mold can more easily grow on broken kernels because this is the food source for the fungi and it is more readily available," he said. "They also impede airflow during aeration of stored corn. So, getting rid of the

fine material is a good strategy for improving grain storage, especially this year."

Stroshine recommends using the combine's full capabilities to help get rid of the fine material and incorporating high capacity screen cleaners into the grain-handling system.

From a grain drying and handling standpoint, Stroshine said, farmers need to recognize that corn harvested with a high moisture content will have more kernel damage; thus making it more susceptible to mold damage during storage.

There is a certain shelf life or storage time for grain and putting it into a bin after it's been kept at a high moisture content, even for a few days, reduces its shelf life, Stroshine said.

For example, a farmer decides to harvest the field and get it out of the weather to stop mold growth as soon as possible, Stroshine said. The farmer has a lot of wet corn waiting for several days to be dried and during this time while the corn is still wet, it loses its shelf life on the other end. The grain will be more susceptible to molding if it's stressed later on. So there's really a tradeoff, Stroshine said.

Even though it may slow down harvest, Stroshine recommends drying corn to below 15 percent moisture as soon as possible to help prevent any further mold issues.

Stroshine recognizes the challenges producers face. They need to get the crop out of the field as soon as possible to prevent further damage and loss, but they also need to realize that because of the situation harvest is going to take longer, he said.

Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday October 25, 2009

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation					
	Air				Precip.			April 1, 2009 thru October 25, 2009					
	Temperature				Precip.			4in		Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Northwest (1)													
Chalmers_5W	70	29	52	+1	1.89	3		26.45	+2.31	86	2642	-554	
Francesville	70	33	52	+3	2.23	3		26.61	+2.03	78	2586	-334	
Valparaiso_AP_I	69	38	53	+3	2.58	4		22.24	-4.39	81	2751	-173	
Wanatah	70	30	51	+3	2.57	4	53	26.87	+1.38	88	2462	-312	
Winamac	70	32	52	+3	1.99	4		22.64	-1.94	77	2670	-250	
North Central(2)													
Plymouth	70	36	52	+2	1.27	3		24.77	-0.60	98	2593	-482	
South_Bend	70	33	53	+4	1.62	4		27.71	+2.97	78	2748	-134	
Young_America	71	38	56	+7	2.22	2		27.00	+3.07	61	2703	-314	
Northeast (3)													
Fort_Wayne	71	33	53	+4	1.59	3		26.14	+4.24	81	2887	-141	
Kendallville	69	34	52	+3	1.09	3		22.27	-0.64	94	2916	+67	
West Central(4)													
Greencastle	68	28	52	-2	1.64	2		36.27	+8.73	88	2693	-742	
Perrysville	73	36	54	+4	1.50	2	50	35.78	+10.15	84	3010	-175	
Spencer_Ag	69	30	52	+1	0.84	3		38.98	+11.49	85	3012	-193	
Terre_Haute_AFB	68	35	54	+2	0.89	2		26.46	+0.55	71	3277	-130	
W_Lafayette_6NW	71	28	53	+3	1.59	3	55	30.19	+5.92	81	2847	-168	
Central (5)													
Eagle_Creek_AP	69	34	53	+2	1.41	2		32.94	+8.68	80	3298	-75	
Greenfield	70	29	50	-2	0.93	3		38.57	+11.99	85	2918	-323	
Indianapolis_AP	70	35	55	+3	1.33	2		36.43	+12.17	78	3423	+50	
Indianapolis_SE	69	27	52	-1	0.82	2		39.15	+14.29	83	2916	-451	
Tipton_Ag	70	30	52	+3	1.64	3	56	31.01	+6.02	86	2738	-178	
East Central(6)													
Farmland	71	24	51	+3	0.80	3	51	23.48	-0.43	80	2788	-54	
New_Castle	69	24	51	+2	0.95	2		30.26	+4.75	80	2680	-235	
Southwest (7)													
Evansville	70	37	55	+1	0.45	2		34.74	+10.10	77	3902	-25	
Freelandville	69	34	53	+1	1.06	2		42.61	+16.99	78	3374	-148	
Shoals_8S	70	28	51	-2	0.72	2		41.23	+13.54	76	3062	-353	
Stendal	72	33	55	+3	0.73	2		44.55	+17.18	77	3798	+110	
Vincennes_5NE	72	33	54	+2	0.88	1	57	41.78	+16.16	82	3515	-7	
South Central(8)													
Leavenworth	69	31	52	+0	1.10	2		45.83	+17.97	107	3409	+19	
Oolitic	71	30	52	+0	0.77	3	49	37.58	+10.90	91	3114	-135	
Tell_City	71	34	55	+0	0.83	2		36.04	+8.08	73	3707	-99	
Southeast (9)													
Brookville	72	27	51	+0	1.15	3		32.09	+6.42	79	3159	+81	
Greensburg	72	29	54	+3	0.98	2		38.90	+13.06	83	3308	+151	
Seymour	72	28	52	+0	1.32	2		41.67	+16.17	74	3042	-200	

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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.

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or call 1-888-798-9955.

Moldy Corn Could Cause More Problems if Not Stored Properly (Continued)

"More effort, fuel or propane, more time and more patience are going to be needed to successfully harvest, dry and store this year's crop," Stroshine said.

Planning is the key. Stroshine said producers should ask themselves, "Can I get it dried without leaving it at a high moisture content for an appreciable amount of time? Can I store it well? Can I handle it properly?"

If not, he said, it will only create another problem if the grain is taken from the field and piled up on the farmstead without being properly dried.

"Farmers may want to mix their corn with high levels of mold with their good corn, but my recommendation would be to segregate the good corn from the bad," Stroshine said. "It should be handled separately. Then if need be, the producer can blend it later."

More information about grain handling and storage is available online at <http://www.grainquality.org>. Matt Roberts, a former graduate student in the department

who specialized in this area, is available to help answer technical questions regarding drying and storing this year's crop. Robert's goal is to help Hoosier producers and the grain industry maintain the quality of their corn and soybean crops at the highest possible level. He can be reached at 765-494-1174 or mroberts@purdue.edu.

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[Agriculture News Page](#)

Note to journalists: Four audio clips are available at <http://tinyurl.com/yz98jq7>

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