United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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Agricultural Summary

Warm, windy days allowed some farmers to finish planting but also placed stress on field crops as topsoil is becoming very dry in many areas, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Emergence of both corn and soybeans has been slow and uneven in some fields due to dry and crusted soils. Farmers were busy spraying herbicides and applying nitrogen to corn. Wheat fields in central and northern areas are shorter than normal which will result in lower straw yields. Wheat fields in southern counties are rapidly maturing and harvest will begin soon. A large amount of hay was cut and baled as warm temperatures and low humidity allowed for good curing.

Field Crops Report

There were 6.5 **days suitable for field work** during the week. Ninety-seven percent of the intended **corn** acreage has been **planted** compared with 43 percent last year and 66 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 98 percent of the crop has been planted in the north, 98 percent in the central region and 95 percent in the south. Eighty-seven percent of corn acreage has **emerged** compared with 15 percent last year and 42 percent for the 5-year average.

Eighty-seven percent of the intended **soybean** acreage has been **planted** compared with 14 percent last year and 35 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 91 percent of the soybean crop has been planted in the north, 89 percent in the central region and 75 percent in the south. Sixty-two percent of soybean acreage has **emerged** compared with 2 percent last year and 12 percent for the 5-year average.

Ninety-three percent of the **winter wheat** acreage has **headed** compared with 40 percent last year and 53 percent for the 5-year average. **Condition** of winter wheat, still standing, declined slightly and is now rated 70 percent good to excellent compared with 59 percent last year at this time.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Livestock remained in mostly good condition during the week. **Pasture condition** declined due to lack of rainfall and is now rated 66 percent good to excellent compared with 60 percent last year at this time.

Crop Progress

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	97	93	43	66
Corn Emerged	87	75	15	42
Soybeans Planted	87	68	14	35
Soybeans Emerged	62	37	2	12
Winter Wheat Headed	93	81	40	53
Alfalfa, First Cutting	73	43	0	8

Crop Condition

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
	Percent				
Corn	1	3	26	55	15
Winter Wheat	1	5	24	55	15
Pasture	1	6	27	53	13

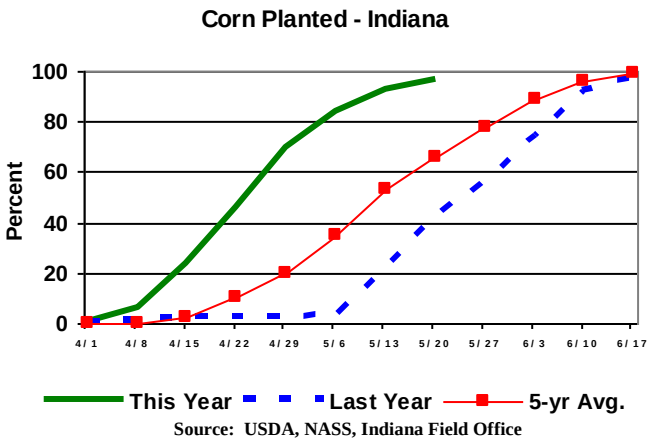
Soil Moisture & Days Suitable For Fieldwork

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	7	2	0
Short	36	13	1
Adequate	52	69	52
Surplus	5	16	47
Subsoil			
Very Short	5	2	0
Short	30	16	1
Adequate	61	74	54
Surplus	4	8	45
Days Suitable	6.5	4.5	3.0

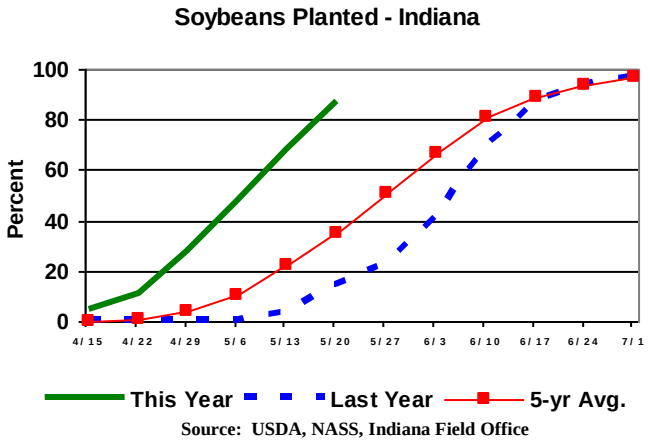
Contact Information
--Greg Preston, Director
--Andy Higgins, Agricultural Statistician

Access the National publication for this release at:
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/National_Crop_Progress/index.asp

Crop Progress



Source: USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office



Source: USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office

Other Agricultural Comments And News

Corn Replant Decisions

Written by R.L. (Bob) Nielsen, Agronomy Department, Purdue University. Article published in the May 2012 edition of Corny News Network. The article can be viewed online at: http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/timeless/ReplantDecisions.html

Crappy stands of corn (aka less than desirable) occur somewhere in Indiana every year. 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 most common is often the grower's 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.

Making 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.

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 may be uncertain if the field is too wet to replant today and the forecast is for a lot of rainy weather. An accurate estimate of the replanting date is important because it influences the estimate of yield relative to "normal" and, thus, the estimate of dollar returns from replanting.

- Recognize that there is no guarantee of success for later-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 European corn borer, so make sure you consider hybrids with Bt corn borer trait technology. 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).

(continued on page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, May 20, 2012

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
								April 1, 2012 through May 20, 2012				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	90	45	64	+2	0.00	0		4.41	-1.80	15	372	+30
Francesville	88	43	65	+4	0.00	0		3.21	-2.70	10	388	+94
Valparaiso_AP_I	90	42	64	+4	0.00	0		3.39	-3.03	16	354	+80
Wanatah	92	41	65	+6	0.00	0	71	3.95	-2.18	15	328	+94
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	90	43	63	+2	0.00	0		2.05	-4.25	10	332	+22
Rochester	89	42	63	+3	0.00	0		2.12	-4.05	11	360	+110
South_Bend	89	47	64	+5	0.07	1		3.51	-2.33	18	364	+107
Young_America	88	43	64	+4	0.00	0		3.05	-2.83	10	360	+72
Northeast (3)												
Angola	87	40	62	+4	0.00	0		3.13	-2.67	12	268	+72
Fort_Wayne	88	43	64	+4	0.00	0		2.09	-3.49	13	410	+139
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	86	42	62	-2	0.00	0		5.13	-1.70	12	374	-5
Perrysville	92	44	67	+6	0.00	0	77	2.55	-3.93	10	511	+182
Spencer_Ag	88	45	65	+3	0.00	0		5.35	-1.82	17	473	+140
Terre_Haute_AFB	90	45	69	+6	0.00	0		5.07	-1.80	15	619	+242
W_Lafayette_6NW	91	42	66	+6	0.00	0	71	4.66	-1.63	14	452	+158
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	87	48	66	+4	0.00	0		4.32	-1.98	14	494	+128
Greenfield	88	49	66	+4	0.00	0		5.26	-1.64	15	431	+104
Indianapolis_AP	86	50	67	+5	0.00	0		5.46	-0.84	15	528	+162
Indianapolis_SE	87	49	66	+3	0.00	0		5.97	-0.75	15	430	+83
Marion_Ag	87	42	63	+3	0.00	0		2.46	-3.67	10	355	+95
Tipton_Ag	88	44	64	+4	0.00	0		3.73	-2.67	12	392	+131
East Central (6)												
Farmland	88	44	64	+4	0.00	0	77	4.44	-1.54	11	388	+136
New_Castle	87	43	63	+2	0.00	0		5.40	-1.57	14	363	+104
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	92	53	71	+6	0.01	1		3.41	-3.76	11	737	+237
Freelandville	89	50	68	+5	0.00	0		4.43	-2.78	13	568	+168
Shoals_8S	89	47	66	+4	0.00	0		5.10	-2.47	12	534	+146
Stendal	90	52	68	+4	0.00	0		2.98	-4.85	10	620	+175
Vincennes_5NE	90	48	68	+4	0.00	0	73	4.47	-2.74	10	625	+225
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	89	53	67	+4	0.19	2		6.75	-1.00	17	595	+200
Oolitic	88	46	65	+3	0.00	0	72	7.20	+0.05	15	482	+132
Tell_City	89	56	69	+4	0.00	0		3.14	-4.82	13	702	+242
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	88	45	65	+4	0.14	1		8.46	+1.54	15	465	+165
Greensburg	87	51	67	+5	0.04	1		6.99	-0.26	16	503	+164
Seymour	87	46	65	+2	0.12	1		6.19	-0.71	18	471	+109

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 or call 1-888-798-9955.

- Recognize that the costs of replanting a damaged stand may include additional herbicide or tillage to eliminate the surviving plants in the crappy stand. Simply replanting through an existing, crappy stand of corn is not always a wise decision because the original plants of the crappy stand can significantly compete with the newly emerged replant seedlings and reduce their yield potential. My opinion, supported by empirical evidence, is that unless the surviving population of the original crappy stand is significantly less than 50% of the intended original population, you ought to take steps to eliminate those plants prior to replanting the field. Unfortunately, "taking out" the original plants is not as simple as it was years ago because of today's transgenic herbicide-tolerant traits. If the original hybrid planted in the field contains Roundup-ready™ or LibertyLink™ traits, you will not be able to use glyphosate or glufosinate herbicides to "burn down" the original, poor stand of corn. In addition to cold, hard steel (aka tillage), there are a limited number of herbicide options for killing crappy stands of these herbicide-tolerant hybrids (Johnson et al., 2010), but some require a significant waiting period before replanting the field. Corn older than about V3 (three leaf collars) will also generally be much more difficult to "take out" with these alternative herbicides.

Finally, some information is required for the worksheet calculations 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.

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WEEKLY NEWS REPORT

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