



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 25

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Farmers continued to plant corn and soybeans as field conditions permitted, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Planting of corn and soybeans is running nearly 2 weeks behind both last year and the 5-year average pace. Replanting of corn and soybeans will be required in many fields due to poor emergence in early planted crops. The first cutting of hay is underway as farmers find windows of opportunity in between rain showers. Fruit crops are reported to be in good condition at this time. Very little tobacco has been set thus far this season.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 3.0 **days suitable for field work**. Seventy-seven percent of the intended **corn** acreage has been **planted** compared with 98 percent last year and 89 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 88 percent has been planted in the north, 83 percent in the central region, and 46 percent in the south. Fifty-four percent of the corn acreage has now **emerged** compared with 81 percent last year and 75 percent for the 5-year average. Thirty-eight percent of the intended **soybean** acreage has been **planted** compared with 84 percent last year and 67 percent for the 5-year average. Ten percent of the soybean acreage has now **emerged** compared with 47 percent for last year and 41 for the 5-year average.

Sixty-one percent of the winter wheat is **headed** compared with 78 percent last year and 82 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 73 percent good to excellent compared to 38 percent last year at this time.

Major activities during the week included: spraying herbicides, mowing hay, equipment maintenance, fertilizer applications, hauling grain to market, hauling manure, and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 16% excellent, 47% good, 29% fair, 6% poor and 2% very poor. Pasture condition continues to improve but needs warmer temperatures for better growth. Livestock remain in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	77	68	98	89
Corn Emerged	54	35	81	75
Soybeans Planted	38	23	84	67
Soybeans Emerged	10	NA	47	41
Winter Wheat Headed	61	36	78	82

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Pasture	2	6	29	47	16
Winter Wheat	1	4	22	53	20

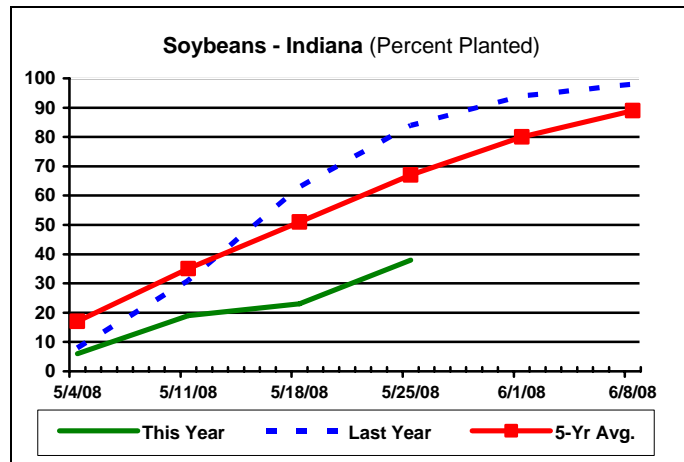
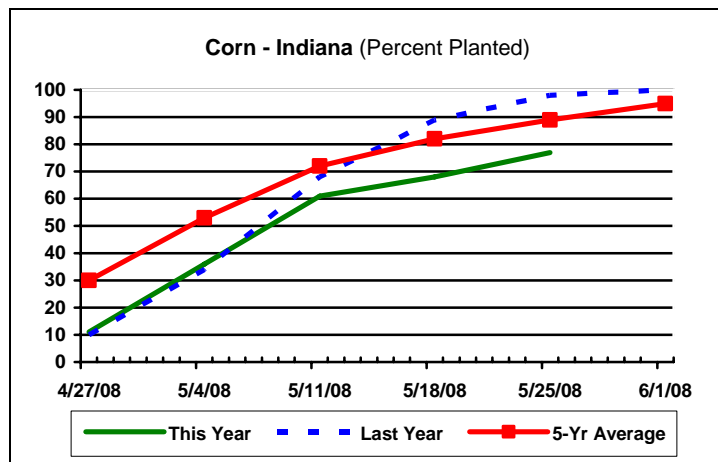
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	7
Short	1	0	37
Adequate	58	37	54
Surplus	41	63	2
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	3
Short	1	0	24
Adequate	60	49	71
Surplus	39	51	2
Days Suitable	3.0	1.0	6.2

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Early Planted Corn Feeling “Under the Weather”

The seemingly relentless cool, wet, and cloudy weather of recent weeks has not only delayed the completion of corn planting, but has also certainly not been favorable for rapid and vigorous stand establishment for fields of corn already planted. Germination and emergence have been slow relative to calendar time, as has subsequent leaf stage development, simply because heat unit accumulation per day has been less than normal.

A few fields have experienced chilling injury to kernels during the imbibition process. Imbibition occurs during the first 24 to 36 hours after planting. Symptoms of such imbibitional chilling injury include kernels that fail to germinate or arrested growth of the radicle root or coleoptile. Instances of chilling injury during the emergence process have also been reported, often causing deformed elongation of the mesocotyl (the so-called “corkscrew” symptom) and either delayed emergence or complete failure of emergence (i.e., leafing out underground).

Lower than desired plant populations may justify replanting consideration for some fields, but please base that decision as much as possible on facts and not emotion. Use my worksheet for replant decisions, available on the Web at <<http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/pubs/AY-264-W.pdf>>.

The appearance of plants in fields where emergence was reasonably successful can be best described as “crappy”, primarily due to their yellowish-green color and general lack of vigor. Everyone knows the remedy for poor plant appearance and vigor is simply a return of sunshine and warmer temperatures. If there’s good news about such early-season stress, it is that the primary potential effect on yield at this point in time is the effect on “effective” plant population (i.e., plants that will survive to produce a normal-sized ear). Stress that occurs prior to leaf stage V5 has no direct effect on ear size determination simply because the uppermost, harvestable, ear is not initiated until about V5.

If weather conditions over the next few weeks continue to favor sluggish plant development, the risk of further damage to plants from soil-borne disease and insects will increase. Corn plants are very dependent on the energy reserves of the kernel until about leaf stage V3, at which point the plants normally begin transitioning from dependence on kernel reserves to dependence on the nodal root system that develops from the crown of the plant (Nielsen, 2007). Until a plant fully completes this transition (usually by V5 or V6), it is susceptible to stunting or death due to kernel or mesocotyl injury. Consequently, the slower the progress towards V5 or V6, the more at-risk a plant is to continued stressful conditions.

Related References

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Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday May 25, 2008

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2008 thru May 25, 2008				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
							Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	70	39	53	-12	0.10	1		5.03	-1.78	21	243	-174
Francesville	72	39	53	-11	0.04	2		4.73	-1.76	22	255	-107
Valparaiso_AP_I	71	39	52	-11	0.00	0		3.24	-3.81	16	279	-61
Wanatah	71	38	52	-10	0.04	1	59	5.41	-1.32	22	230	-66
Winamac	70	39	53	-11	0.24	3	56	5.57	-0.92	23	259	-103
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	70	38	52	-12	0.15	2		6.13	-0.77	22	248	-134
South_Bend	72	37	52	-11	0.00	0		5.34	-1.02	21	297	-23
Young_America	70	40	54	-10	0.12	1		8.11	+1.63	20	281	-77
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	70	36	53	-10	0.00	0	53	6.01	-0.41	23	256	-41
Fort_Wayne	71	38	53	-10	0.01	1		5.11	-1.02	23	308	-30
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	72	38	54	-12	0.70	3		9.43	+1.85	22	264	-195
Perrysville	71	39	56	-9	0.91	3	61	6.92	-0.21	23	330	-72
Spencer_Ag	75	39	55	-9	0.54	2		9.46	+1.52	21	299	-107
Terre_Haute_AFB	74	40	57	-10	0.27	2		6.35	-1.22	17	370	-85
W_Lafayette_6NW	70	40	54	-10	0.35	3	55	7.12	+0.23	27	291	-73
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	71	42	56	-10	0.56	4		7.79	+0.84	25	390	-54
Greenfield	70	41	55	-11	0.50	3		7.90	+0.34	28	300	-102
Indianapolis_AP	71	43	57	-9	0.72	3		6.80	-0.15	23	416	-28
Indianapolis_SE	69	37	54	-11	0.61	3		6.14	-1.26	24	301	-124
Tipton_Ag	69	37	53	-10	0.26	3	57	7.69	+0.69	27	262	-66
East Central (6)												
Farmland	69	40	53	-10	0.16	2	56	6.81	+0.20	25	251	-66
New_Castle	69	40	53	-10	0.31	2		6.66	-1.01	26	266	-60
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	79	44	62	-7	0.07	1		9.51	+1.59	20	520	-72
Freelandville	74	48	59	-7	0.23	2		11.75	+3.73	22	396	-86
Shoals_8S	73	38	56	-10	0.29	3		13.15	+4.73	23	342	-124
Stendal	75	44	60	-8	0.19	2		12.80	+4.12	25	473	-59
Vincennes_5NE	75	44	60	-6	0.20	1	60	11.45	+3.43	20	424	-58
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	73	43	59	-7	0.07	1		11.40	+2.90	30	457	-15
Oolitic	73	39	55	-9	1.18	3	59	13.32	+5.39	27	318	-105
Tell_City	77	47	61	-6	0.04	1		11.76	+3.05	23	510	-37
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	74	41	56	-9	0.78	2		8.83	+1.16	27	356	-13
Greensburg	71	42	57	-8	1.15	3		8.95	+0.95	26	384	-28
Scottsburg	74	42	57	-10	1.02	3		9.73	+1.91	26	430	-56

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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Seedcorn Maggot Potential for Planted Soybean

- Seedcorn maggot are attracted to fields with abundant vegetation and/or animal manure.
- Winter annual weed control goes a long way in preventing infestations.
- Most corn seed is already protected by seed-applied insecticides, soybean is not.
- Evaluate fields to determine level of damage and need for replanting.

Planting activity was at breakneck speed before the rain this past week. Some soybean planting occurred in fields that had less than ideal seedbeds, meaning little to no weed control had been applied. Corn and soybean seeds planted in high crop residue, weedy growth, and/or where animal manure was applied are most often subject to attack by seedcorn maggot. You are familiar with the many drawbacks of planting into weedy fields, such as black cutworm, but seedcorn maggot is a potentially serious pest that is often forgotten.

Seedcorn maggot adults are small, extremely common flies (look like a miniature housefly) that are attracted to all types of decaying matter in which to

lay their eggs. Soils planted too wet are often improperly sealed, attracting flies to climb down into the furrow and deposit eggs in decaying weeds next to the seed. Soon the yellowish-white maggots, up to 1/4 inch long, burrow into the seeds or underground portion of plants and feed. The damage they cause can serve as an entry point for a range of other pests as well, including fungal and bacterial pathogens. All of this happens beneath the soil surface, so the damage is usually first observed as skips in the row where plants do not emerge, or if they emerge, die back. The problem will be worsened by cool-wet soils during the germination period. Sound familiar!

Low rates of Cruiser or Poncho is present on the vast majority of corn seed sold in Indiana and is very effective on seedcorn maggot. Soybean seed, on the other hand, is typically *not* treated with an insecticide and would be prone to damage if planted into weedy/manured fields. Should replanting be necessary, insecticide on the soybean seed (i.e., Cruiser or Gaucho) is probably not necessary, as the seedcorn maggot will probably have already pupated and soon to emerge as an adult fly.

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