



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 22

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Winter wheat harvest is underway in southwestern portions of the state, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Initial planting and re-planting of soybeans continues as soils dry out. Cleanup is taking place in many central and southern areas as flood waters recede. This past week, 7 percent of the corn acreage was reported as flooded. Also, 7 percent of the soybean acreage and 3 percent of the wheat acreage were reported as flooded. Some farmers are still working on their first cutting of hay crops with good yields being reported.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 4.9 **days suitable for field work**. Ninety-seven percent of the **corn** acreage has now **emerged** compared with 100 percent last year and 98 percent for the 5-year average. Fifty-nine percent of the corn acreage is reported to be in good to excellent **condition** compared with 49 percent last year at this time. Some re-planting of corn is taking place, but farmers are concerned with the lateness of the season.

Ninety percent of the intended **soybean** acreage has been **planted** compared with 99 percent last year and 96 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 97 percent has been planted in the north, 91 percent in the central region, and 76 percent in the south. Seventy-nine percent of the soybean acreage has now **emerged** compared with 97 percent for last year and 93 for the 5-year average.

Winter wheat **condition** is rated 73 percent good to excellent compared to 32 percent last year at this time. Army worms continue to be a problem in some wheat fields which have required spraying.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition improved and is rated as 26% excellent, 45% good, 21% fair, 6% poor and 2% very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Emerged	97	93	100	98
Soybeans Planted	90	80	99	96
Soybeans Emerged	79	70	97	93
Winter Wheat Harvested	6	NA	31	21
Alfalfa – 1st Cutting	88	68	98	91

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	5	10	26	45	14
Soybean	5	9	32	44	10
Winter Wheat	2	5	20	50	23
Pasture	2	6	21	45	26

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	29
Short	4	2	37
Adequate	73	50	33
Surplus	23	48	1
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	25
Short	2	1	44
Adequate	68	53	31
Surplus	30	46	0
Days Suitable	4.9	2.8	5.4

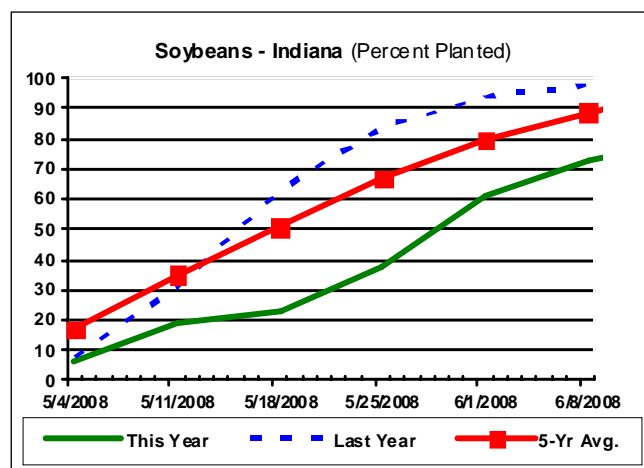
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Crop Progress

Other Agricultural Comments And News

	Percent of Crop Acres Flooded					
	% Corn		% Soybeans		% Wheat	
	June 22	June 15	June 22	June 15	June 22	June 15
District 1	3.5	4.8	3.2	4.5	1.4	2.4
District 2	2.5	5.1	2.6	5.4	1.0	4.0
District 3	2.1	2.5	2.3	2.6	1.6	2.0
District 4	12.4	12.8	11.1	10.9	3.4	5.5
District 5	6.7	11.8	7.5	11.5	3.1	6.0
District 6	5.2	8.1	4.6	8.5	2.4	4.8
District 7	15.4	15.9	15.1	16.2	5.3	5.8
District 8	15.5	13.1	14.0	12.9	6.8	8.9
District 9	3.6	2.8	3.7	2.3	0.6	0.4
State	7.0	9.0	7.0	9.0	3.0	5.0



Tillage System Choices for June Planting or Replanting After Flooding

Farmers who decide to replant ponded areas or even entire fields that were flooded (and where the stand loss justifies replanting on an economic basis) will want to do so with as little tillage as possible. In most field situations, intensive tillage does not make sense because of the additional cost and time that it will take as well as the risk of creating cloddy seedbeds that limit seed germination. Most often, the preferred tillage system for June planting would be no-till. However, there are some no-till adjustments that might be helpful, and there are some unique situations where some tillage might be justified. Here are some tips for tillage and planting decisions for such late planting situations:

1. No-till normally makes the most sense. With warm air and soil temperatures during most of June, yield differences between tillage system are even less than they could be with April planting. For example, while tillage might improve yields on certain soils when corn is planted in April following corn, no-till corn should equal conventional tillage corn when farmers plant in June.
2. Consider compromises to the "ideal" seedbed moisture condition. Although it is preferable to wait until the surface 2 inches of soil are dry enough to avoid sidewall compaction with planter disk openers, the reality is that corn and soybean yield losses grow with each passing day. If farmers are confident that weekly rainfall will occur for the first 3 weeks after their June planting, then some sidewall compaction can be tolerated with little negative effects on yield. However, if hot and dry weather conditions are expected, it would be foolish to "smear" the seed in..
3. Use minimum down pressure on the row units and seed closing wheels. Soils that have been saturated for some time tend to have excess moisture below seed depth. Compaction of those layers with high down pressures can cause problems for root expansion later in the season. The objective in setting down pressure is to use the least pressure required to get sufficient penetration of the seed disk opener, constant seed depth, and adequate closure of the seed furrow. Higher pressures don't improve things, and may be harmful (particularly for soybean).

4. Consider tools to aid soil drying before planting. Superficial tillage (with shallow harrows, coulters and/or rolling baskets) may be helpful to speed up the rate of surface soil drying in cases with matted surface residue or crusted soil. Such tools may not improve otherwise no-till corn or soybean yields, but may advance planting by one or two drying days.
5. Recognize the consequences of flooding to soil structure. Soils that have been wet for some time are always the soils most vulnerable to forming clods when they are tilled. Soils that have gone through several wetting and drying periods in normal precipitation intensities will have much better tilth or friability than soil that dries for the first time following a week or more of saturation. So the risk of doing tillage following flooding in June is that the soil is so non-friable that large clods will form easily (especially in the tractor wheel tracks) and that seed to soil contact will be compromised. Cloddy seedbeds are most likely on soils with high clay and low organic matter contents following crops which don't enhance soil aggregate stability (e.g. following soybean). Similarly, the potential of soil crust formation (and restriction to seedling emergence) following June tillage operations is even more likely than in no-till situations.
6. Avoid thinking of tillage as the only way deal with herbicide resistant crops. Farmers using glyphosate-resistant soybean following their earlier 2008 planting of glyphosate-resistant corn may first think of tillage as an expedient method to control these surviving herbicide resistant "volunteer" plants. However, tillage may be more costly (in terms of compromising seedbed quality and delayed planting) than other herbicide options. For additional herbicide versus tillage methods to control the glyphosate-resistant corn, see the recent article by Johnson and Nice (2008).

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday June 22, 2008

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 2008 thru June 22, 2008				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	4 in	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
								Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	85	52	68	-5	0.31	2		10.20	-0.12	32	801	-167
Francesville	85	50	67	-4	0.88	2		9.11	-1.18	33	801	-69
Valparaiso_AP_I	84	51	67	-4	0.08	2		5.17	-5.77	27	822	-13
Wanatah	85	48	66	-5	0.10	2	74	8.19	-2.11	34	757	-25
Winamac	84	50	67	-5	1.22	3	68	10.25	-0.04	34	804	-66
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	84	51	66	-6	0.34	3		10.46	-0.27	36	785	-124
South_Bend	85	49	66	-6	0.14	1		7.85	-2.20	30	838	+24
Young_America	83	47	65	-6	0.20	1		13.42	+3.45	32	830	-46
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	84	49	66	-5	0.61	3	59	11.29	+1.13	34	779	+10
Fort_Wayne	85	51	67	-5	1.20	3		10.64	+1.18	38	883	+24
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	85	50	68	-6	0.30	2		23.41	+12.26	35	825	-211
Perrysville	89	54	71	-3	0.40	2	78	18.62	+7.61	35	947	-4
Spencer_Ag	87	54	70	-3	0.55	4		25.83	+14.11	37	908	-40
Terre_Haute_AFB	87	54	70	-4	1.40	2		20.36	+9.47	28	1000	-29
W_Lafayette_6NW	86	50	68	-3	0.16	2	72	11.87	+1.58	39	880	-3
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	86	55	70	-4	0.29	3		19.79	+9.61	40	1020	+2
Greenfield	85	51	68	-5	0.62	2		19.98	+9.21	41	875	-79
Indianapolis_AP	85	54	70	-4	0.20	2		14.53	+4.35	35	1048	+30
Indianapolis_SE	85	49	67	-6	0.15	1		16.18	+5.73	36	873	-119
Tipton_Ag	85	49	67	-5	0.21	1	73	13.18	+2.94	38	818	-22
East Central (6)												
Farmland	84	50	67	-4	0.64	2	70	12.56	+2.13	37	802	-8
New_Castle	83	51	67	-4	1.05	3		16.83	+5.45	39	814	-18
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	88	55	72	-5	0.08	2		16.04	+4.74	30	1250	+5
Freelandville	87	57	71	-4	0.23	2		18.48	+6.86	35	1054	-21
Shoals_8S	88	48	68	-5	0.45	3		16.86	+4.55	37	965	-64
Stendal	88	54	71	-4	0.40	4		19.86	+7.16	45	1153	+5
Vincennes_5NE	88	55	71	-3	0.61	4		15.62	+4.00	32	1110	+35
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	88	52	71	-2	0.54	5		14.73	+2.31	49	1137	+105
Oolitic	86	51	68	-4	0.14	2	74	18.48	+6.76	38	913	-53
Tell_City	86	56	71	-4	0.12	1		15.24	+2.69	30	1205	+41
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	87	52	68	-3	0.78	2		14.73	+3.65	39	940	+56
Greensburg	85	51	69	-4	0.07	2		19.37	+7.91	37	996	+45
Scottsburg	88	54	72	-2	0.34	2		14.47	+3.15	38	1117	+48

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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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7. Try to spray burndown herbicides as early as possible. Controlling weeds is essential to improve the evaporation rate at the soil surface, and achieving early weed control is more essential for reduced tillage planting situations in June than in April. However, the presence of very tall weeds because of excessive rainfall in May, as well as the recent rains in the first week of June, may limit certain herbicide control options and force some tillage in what earlier might have been candidate fields for no-till cropping.
 8. Keep any tillage operations shallow. Deep tillage will only go into wetter soil conditions, and involve more compaction and clod formation risk. June tillage pre-planting operations should never be deeper than 3 inches.
 9. Automatic guidance is helpful. In re-planting situations, automatic guidance (and particularly the most accurate RTK system) assists farmers planting their rows precisely. This will be an advantage where the June crops might still pick up starter fertilizer benefits from the first planting operation, and would also be helpful in avoiding planting directly over any recently side-dressed nitrogen bands.
 10. Remember where the poorly drained areas are. Once late planting is completed, it might be helpful to consider the adequacy of drainage in these areas. No field drainage system can ever be sufficient for 10 inch downpours, but additional drainage may limit the size of areas requiring replanting this year, and would also improve the odds of success with no-till and strip-till cropping systems.
- There is never any true satisfaction in planting or replanting full-season crops this late in June. It is rather like trying to make the best of a very challenging situation. But intensive tillage is rarely required, and mostly involves more risks for farmers planting in June. Properly managed no-till is usually the best choice.

Related References

Johnson, Bill and Glenn Nice. 2008. Methods to Control Volunteer Roundup Ready or Glyphosate - Tolerant Corn in a Corn Replant Situation. Purdue Extension Weed Science. [On-line] .Available at <http://www.btny.purdue.edu/weedscience/2008/VolCorn08.pdf>. [URL accessed 6/10/08].

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