



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office
1435 Win Hentschel Blvd.

Suite 110
West Lafayette, IN 47906-4145

(765) 494-8371
nass-in@nass.usda.gov

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 10

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Much needed rain and cooler temperatures came to many portions of the state with some northwestern areas receiving over five inches of precipitation, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. However, dry conditions persist in some north central and northeastern counties. Aerial applications of fungicides and some insecticides continue to be made to corn fields. Herbicides are still being sprayed on soybeans as weeds continue to be a problem. Many farm families have been enjoying a visit to the state fair.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 5.3 **days suitable for field work**. **Corn condition** improved and is rated 71 percent good to excellent compared to 43 percent last year at this time. Ninety-three percent of the corn acreage has **silked** compared with 99 percent last year and 97 percent for the 5-year average. Twenty-four percent of the corn acreage is in the **dough** stage compared with 65 percent last year and 56 percent for the 5-year average. Eighty-six percent of the **soybean** acreage is **blooming** compared with 95 percent last year and 92 percent for the 5-year average. Forty-five percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 73 percent last year and 66 percent for the 5-year average. **Soybean condition** improved and is rated 66 percent good to excellent compared with 40 percent last year at this time.

The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** is 27 percent complete compared with 29 percent last year and 30 percent for the 5-year average. Good yields have been reported but re-growth has slowed in many areas due to the recent hot, dry weather.

Major activities during the week included: attending the state fair, reporting crops and signing up at FSA offices, mowing roadsides, scouting fields, spraying herbicides and fungicides, baling hay, and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition declined and is rated as 16% excellent, 43% good, 28% fair, 9% poor and 4% very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition and are enjoying the cooler temperatures.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Silked	93	86	99	97
Corn in Dough	24	8	65	56
Soybeans Blooming	86	73	95	92
Soybeans Setting Pods	45	18	73	66
Alfalfa – 3rd Cutting	27	NA	29	30

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	3	6	20	48	23
Soybean	3	7	24	49	17
Pasture	4	9	28	43	16

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

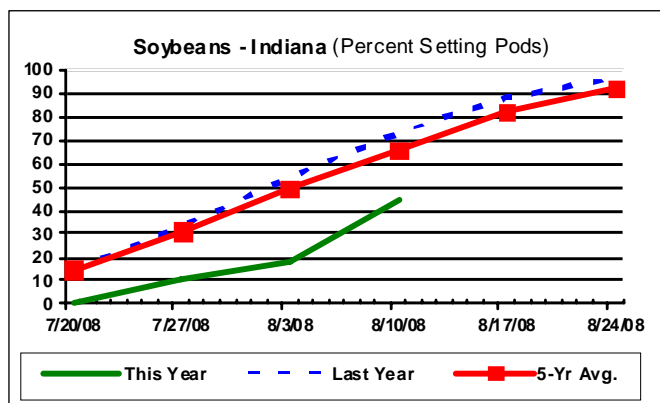
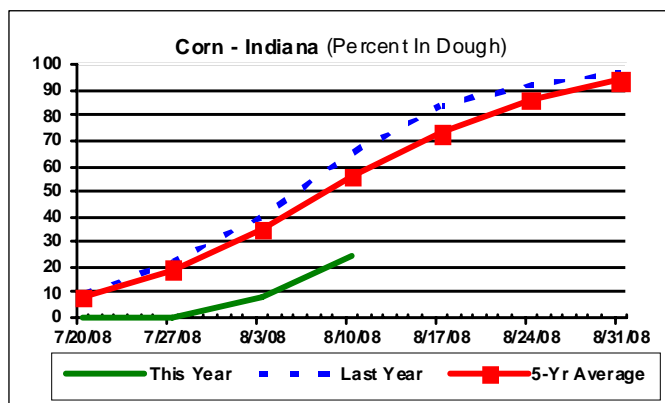
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	3	3	36
Short	19	26	35
Adequate	73	66	29
Surplus	5	5	0
Subsoil			
Very Short	3	3	36
Short	15	18	39
Adequate	76	72	25
Surplus	6	7	0
Days Suitable	5.3	5.8	6.4

CONTACT INFORMATION

--Greg Preston, Director
 --Andy Higgins, Agricultural Statistician
 E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/

Crop Progress

Other Agricultural Comments And News



Toadstrangers in August: Good or Bad for the Corn Crop?

Published 5 Aug 2008

Folks often joke that the Chicago Board of Trade reacts to whatever the weather is doing in downtown Chicago. Well, this Extension corn specialist freely admits that the torrential rainfall occurring outside the windows of Lilly Hall this morning has caught his attention. What are the consequences of excessive rainfall now that much of the state's corn crop is moving into the grain filling period? As you might expect, the answer is "it depends".

Obviously, torrential rain plus strong winds often result in stalk breakage (aka "green snap") or root lodging (plants uprooted and laying nearly flat to the ground). The yield effect of "green snap" damage depends on the percentage of field affected and whether the stalk breakage occurs above or below the ear, but is usually serious regardless. Obviously, stalk breakage below the ear results in zero yield for that plant. Stalk breakage above the ear results in significant yield loss due to the loss of upper canopy photosynthesis capacity for that plant.

Root lodged corn will recover or straighten up to varying degrees depending on the growth stage of the crop. Generally, younger corn has a greater ability to straighten up with minimal "goose-necking" than older corn. Root lodged corn that is beyond the silking stage of development will likely not straighten back up. Yield effects of root lodging depend on whether soil moisture remains adequate for root regeneration, the severity of root damage due to the uprooting nature of root lodging, and the degree of "goose-necking" that develops and its effect on the harvestability of the crop.

Outright flooding of low-lying fields along rivers or creeks this late in the season can cause several problems for a corn crop. Deposits of sediment and crop residues often remain on crop plants once the water recedes that either outright smother any surviving plants or greatly reduce their ability to capture sunlight and photosynthesize carbohydrates until subsequent rain washes it off the plants. Mud and crud that cakes the leaves and stalks encourage subsequent development of fungal and bacterial

diseases in damaged plant tissue. Further physical crop damage (soil erosion, washing away of plants, lodging of plants, and plant tissue damage) occurs from the force of the flowing water on land adjacent to flooded creeks and rivers as well as from any debris caught up in the floodwaters.

Soil oxygen is quickly depleted in ponded areas of fields or areas that are simply poor drained and remained saturated for days after a serious rain event. With typical summer temperatures, such oxygen deprivation quickly takes its toll on the root system of a full-size corn crop. Damage to a corn plant's root system today will predispose the crop to the development of root and stalk rots later by virtue of the photosynthetic stress imposed by the limited root system during the important grain filling period. Growers should monitor affected fields later in August or early September for the possible development of stalk rots and modify harvest-timing strategies accordingly.

The good news is that fields not seriously impacted by flooding, ponding, or wind damage from recent toadstrangers will likely benefit from such mid-summer rainfall. That old adage that "rain in July makes corn" is true, but rainfall in August is always welcome to ensure adequate soil moisture during the all-important grain filling period.

As of yesterday (4 Aug), areas of northcentral and northeast Indiana had only received 1 to 3 inches of rain during the past 30 days (see accompanying graphic). Non-irrigated sandy fields in those areas of Indiana have likely suffered irrecoverable yield losses due to moisture deficits, but will nevertheless respond to current or subsequent rainfall. Rainfall amounts throughout the remainder of the state over the past 30 days have been a bit more plentiful, but many corn growers will be thankful for any rain they receive during the remainder of the month.

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday August 10, 2008

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg	April 1, 2008 thru August 10, 2008				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	4 in	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
							Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	85	54	70	-3	2.38	2		19.07	+2.55	51	1826	-308
Francesville	84	53	69	-3	5.27	3		20.43	+3.93	53	1838	-127
Valparaiso_AP_I	87	53	73	+2	1.82	2		8.90	-8.34	43	1962	+26
Wanatah	87	47	69	-3	5.22	2	77	16.77	-0.03	50	1787	-64
Winamac	86	53	71	-2	5.03	2		22.45	+5.95	52	1841	-124
North Central(2)												
Plymouth	85	51	70	-4	2.70	2		17.65	+0.59	55	1831	-222
South_Bend	86	50	71	-2	0.63	1		11.55	-4.57	47	1952	+30
Young_America	85	49	68	-6	2.76	2		22.51	+6.62	51	1882	-131
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	84	49	69	-3	1.79	5	67	17.75	+1.66	54	1795	-39
Fort_Wayne	85	53	71	-2	1.55	4		17.68	+2.72	55	2012	+1
West Central(4)												
Greencastle	87	54	71	-4	0.20	1		31.29	+12.40	54	1892	-376
Perrysville	90	53	73	-1	0.29	3	82	23.12	+5.17	55	2116	-9
Spencer_Ag	89	56	73	-2	0.38	3		33.50	+14.19	60	2068	-68
Terre_Haute_AFB	89	55	73	-2	0.08	2		26.34	+8.23	47	2189	-73
W_Lafayette_6NW	87	55	71	-2	1.34	2	73	18.76	+2.18	59	1977	-33
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	88	60	74	+0	1.63	2		27.79	+10.85	58	2243	+1
Greenfield	85	56	71	-3	2.07	3		28.96	+10.25	61	1980	-165
Indianapolis_AP	88	60	75	+1	1.57	2		23.82	+6.88	55	2267	+25
Indianapolis_SE	86	56	72	-3	2.63	2		27.08	+9.41	51	1981	-243
Tipton_Ag	88	52	71	-1	2.46	3	79	21.27	+4.46	59	1890	-61
East Central(6)												
Farmland	83	50	69	-3	1.82	3	74	19.96	+3.50	54	1826	-75
New_Castle	84	53	69	-4	1.56	3		25.24	+7.17	57	1828	-117
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	93	60	77	-1	0.39	1		22.47	+5.11	47	2610	-4
Freelandville	88	59	74	-2	1.41	1		25.90	+7.84	51	2288	-50
Shoals_8S	88	54	71	-4	0.86	1		24.23	+4.65	51	2109	-144
Stendal	90	58	75	-2	0.95	3		27.79	+8.51	72	2423	-33
Vincennes_5NE	90	60	76	+2	0.42	1	81	22.41	+4.35	44	2375	+37
South Central(8)												
Leavenworth	89	58	74	-1	0.32	2		22.39	+2.47	75	2382	+136
Oolitic	87	57	72	-2	1.51	2	77	25.59	+6.89	55	2042	-111
Tell_City	91	61	76	-2	0.62	3		21.67	+2.02	45	2520	+31
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	89	56	73	+0	0.91	2		21.04	+2.93	58	2120	+81
Greensburg	86	56	72	-2	1.87	3		27.46	+9.32	55	2151	+55
Scottsburg	88	57	73	-2	1.29	3		22.78	+4.31	63	2321	+0

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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.

The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at www.awis.com

Toadstranglers in August: Good or Bad for the Corn Crop? (Continued)

Related References

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In order to view the weather chart associated with this article, go to: **URL: <http://www.kingcorn.org/news/articles.08/Toadstranglers-0805.html>**

R.L. (Bob) Nielsen, Department of Agronomy, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054

Email address: rneisen@purdue.edu

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