



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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Released Monday 3PM

April 7, 1997

Vol. 47, #1

West Lafayette, IN 47907

CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 6

THIS REPORT IS THE FIRST CROP WEATHER REPORT FOR THE 1997 GROWING SEASON. A SERIES OF WEEKLY CROP PROGRESS REPORTS WILL BE PUBLISHED EACH MONDAY AT 3:00 P.M. THROUGHOUT THE CROP SEASON. These reports will cover planting and harvesting activities, crop development, weather data and timely crop management information provided by Purdue University experts. Look for these reports on the Internet. Our Home Page address is listed at the bottom of this publication.

WINTER WHEAT

Two percent of the wheat acreage is **jointed**, compared to 1 percent last year and the 5-year average of 4 percent. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 70 percent good or excellent, compared to only 19 percent rated good at this time last year. The wheat has plenty of moisture, and is now awaiting warmer weather to progress.

SEED BED PREPARATION

Very little fieldwork has been accomplished so far this spring. Excessive rain during February and March has left most fields saturated. Some fieldwork has taken place in lighter soils. This has been primarily spreading fertilizer and applying anhydrous.

OTHER CROPS

Availability of hay and roughage supplies was rated 2 percent surplus, 43 percent adequate, 46 percent short and 9 percent very short. **Pasture condition** was rated 4 percent excellent, 33 percent good, 46 percent fair, 2 percent poor and 5 percent very poor. Some farmers are moving cattle to pasture sooner than they would liked because of the high price and short supply of hay.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 3.0 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 62 percent adequate and 38 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 61 percent adequate and 39 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Winter Wheat Jointed	2	NA	1	4

CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Winter Wheat 1997	0	6	24	55	15
Winter Wheat 1996	14	24	43	19	0
Pasture	5	12	46	33	4

SOIL MOISTURE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	NA	5
Short	0	NA	8
Adequate	62	NA	46
Surplus	38	NA	41
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	NA	6
Short	0	NA	18
Adequate	61	NA	58
Surplus	39	NA	18

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