



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 16

Corn harvest made good progress until the snow arrived late in the week, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Low temperatures combined with snow and rain have kept the moisture content of harvested corn fairly high. In addition to harvest, farmers have been busy applying lime and fertilizer, as well as continuing fall tillage operations.

CORN

Eighty-seven percent of the **corn** acreage has been **harvested**, ahead of the 81 percent average. By region, corn harvest is 81 percent complete in the north, 90 percent in the central, and 93 percent complete in the south. **Moisture content** of harvested corn is still around 21 percent.

SOYBEANS

Ninety-nine percent of the **soybean** acreage has been **harvested**, ahead of 98 percent for the 5-year average. By region, soybean harvest is 99 percent complete in the north, 100 percent in the central, and 99 percent complete in the south. **Moisture content** of harvested soybeans is currently running around 13 percent. Most of the remaining soybeans were planted late, or on double crop acres.

WINTER WHEAT

Ninety-three percent of the **winter wheat** acreage has **emerged**, ahead of 91 percent last year and equal to the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** was rated 62 percent good to excellent, compared to 71 percent at this time last year. Dry soils have caused emergence problems in some areas.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 5.1 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was rated 4 percent very short, 25 percent short, 67 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 13 percent very short, 32 percent short, 52 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Harvested	87	75	76	81
Soybeans Harvested	99	98	95	98
Winter Wheat Emerged	93	86	91	93

CROP CONDITION

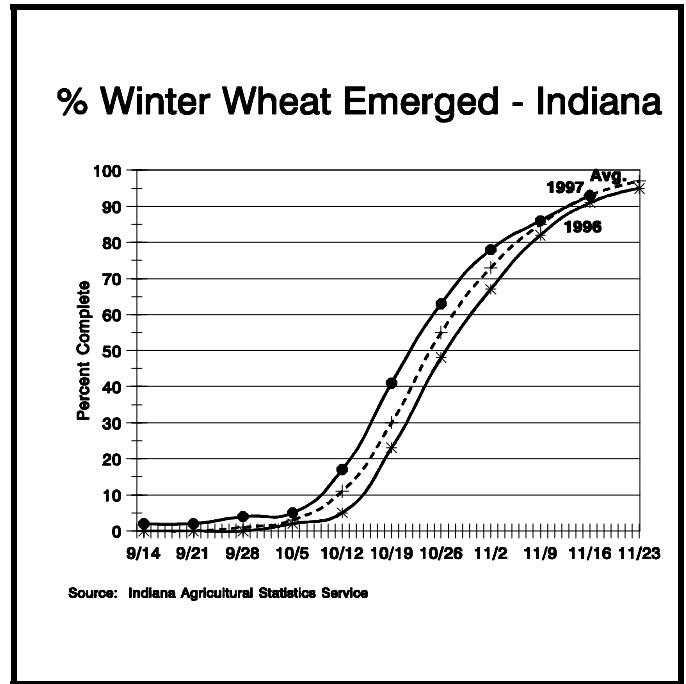
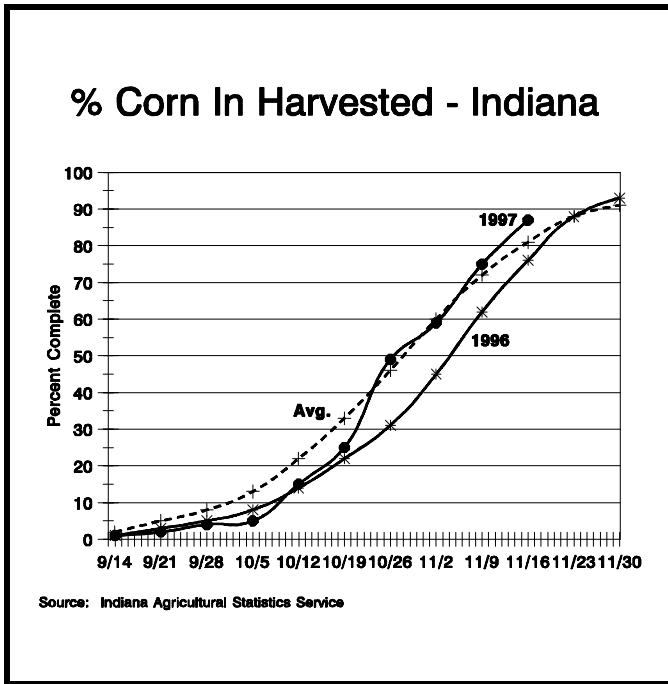
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Wheat	1	8	29	49	13

SOIL MOISTURE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	4	3	1
Short	25	22	3
Adequate	67	69	81
Surplus	4	6	15
Subsoil			
Very Short	13	11	3
Short	32	39	6
Adequate	52	46	84
Surplus	3	4	7

--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician
 --Lance Honig, Agricultural Statistician
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Crop Progress



Managing Western Corn Rootworm Next Year, Part Two

All corn producers should examine the roots on at least 10 plants in each corn field before lay-by, regardless of whether they apply a soil insecticide at planting or as a cultivation treatment after planting. These root checks will help producers determine if insecticide provided adequate control or -- in the case of producers who haven't applied a treatment -- if rootworms are present and threatening the crop.

This evaluation should be made after larvae hatch and are in the second instar stage, when they can be seen with the naked eye. During the last several years, second-instar larvae could be found in early June in southern Indiana and from mid- to late June in the north.

To sample for larvae, randomly select one plant in at least 10 representative areas of the field. Using a spade or shovel, cut a 7-inch cube of soil around the base of each plant, making certain that the blade of the tool enters the soil vertically. Lift the plant and soil out of the ground, and place it on a piece of dark cloth or plastic. Slowly break the soil away from the roots and carefully examine the soil and roots for small, slender, white larvae with brown head and tail sections.

The soil and root sample also can be washed in a pail to extract larvae. The larvae will float to the top where they can be counted. Saturating the water with salt will help the worms float. When hand sorting, if the average number of larvae found per plant is two or more, apply a soil insecticide. If sorting by washing, insecticide is recommended when the count is eight or more. In either case, insecticide should be applied according to cultivation-application instructions provided on the product label.

In all cases, leave untreated strips to evaluate insecticide performance. If a product fails, it will give you a better chance of recovering some of your loss from the product supplier.

We have not seen high numbers of rootworm beetles in most soybean fields south of Interstate 70. However, this could change.

(Continued on Page 4.)

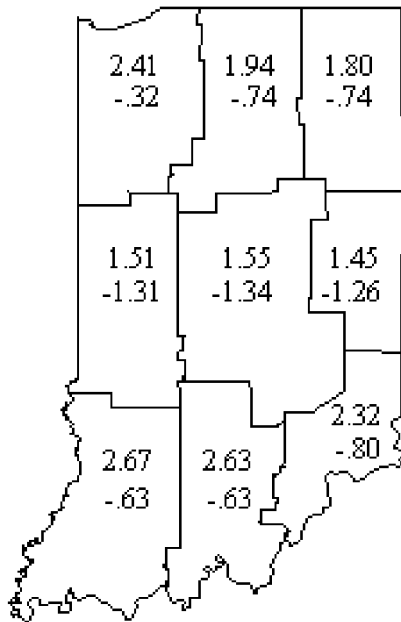
Average Daily Values for week ending Monday morning November 17, 1997

Area	Station	Air Temperature			Precipitation			Growing Degree Days		
		Max	Min	DN	Past Week	Since April 1	DN Since April 1	Past Week	Since April 1	DN Since April 1
		NW	Wanatah	36	21	-12	.67	25.11	-2.56	
	Kentland	36	24	-11	.25	18.84	-8.46		3149	-130
	Winamac	34	21	-13	.48	26.49	-.18		2986	-79
NC	South Bend	35	24	-12	.57	22.03	-5.00		2940	-46
	Waterford Mills	35	22	-13	.41	29.58	+4.25		2926	-111
NE	Prairie Heights	35	21	-11	.38	25.97	-.01		2812	+99
	Columbia City	35	23	-11	.38	26.92	+.80		2949	+26
	Fort Wayne	35	23	-12	.37	28.74	+4.91		2979	-168
	Bluffton	36	24	-13	.52	25.63	+.17		3078	-171
WC	West Lafayette	35	24	-12	.27	20.59	-5.75		3209	+52
	Lafayette	36	23	-12	.19	19.34	-7.00		3288	+131
	Perrysville	35	24	-15	.10	19.25	-10.16		3266	-407
	Crawfordsville	36	23	-12	.25	20.83	-4.77		3038	-148
	Terre Haute 8s	38	26	-12	.30	21.67	-6.72		3557	-15
C	Tipton	36	22	-12	.43	21.72	-5.65		2935	-150
	Indianapolis	36	26	-12	.45	17.02	-9.50		3394	-121
	Indian Creek	37	26	-12	.23	20.15	-7.54		3417	+38
EC	Farmland	37	23	-12	.48	20.57	-5.39		3036	+10
	Liberty	37	25	-12	.29	22.12	-6.01		3183	-186
SW	Vincennes	38	26	-13	.46	27.70	-.44		3639	-39
	Dubois	39	27	-12	.50	27.10	-3.77		3517	-89
	Evansville	39	30	-12	.82	20.02	-7.26		3809	-218
SC	Bedford	38	26	-11	.56	29.91	+.49		3370	-116
	Louisville	41	33	-10	.76	23.39	-4.83		3928	-75
SE	Butlerville	38	26	-14	.41	28.05	-.11		3321	-409

DN = departure from normal.

Growing Degree Days = daily mean - 50 (below 50 adjusted to 50, above 86 adjusted to 86.)

Rainfall for Past 4 Weeks
and Departure from Normal



Rainfall of 1 Inch or More
for Past 7 Days as of Monday morning



Managing Rootworm (continued)

We recommend against rootworm larvae insecticide treatments in fields planted to soybeans in 1997 that will be planted with corn in '98, unless high numbers of rootworm beetles were seen in those bean fields. (We would appreciate receiving information on fields that may have had high numbers of beetles south of I-70.)

In most cases, only continuous corn will need a soil insecticide for rootworm control, although an insecticide may be needed if other insect pests are present in economic numbers. The following are the criteria for applying corn rootworm control south of I-70:

- ◆ The potential for a rootworm problem is minimal or nonexistent if no corn rootworm beetles or evidence of silk feeding were seen in corn fields the previous year; if rootworm beetle counts in corn averaged less than the economic threshold given in Extension Publication E-49, "Managing Corn Rootworms-1997," Rev. 6-97; or if no beetles were observed in the soybean field the previous year.

- ◆ There is potential for an economic rootworm problem in corn if beetle counts meet the economic threshold (see E-49). Avoid a rootworm problem by planting another crop or applying a soil insecticide.
- ◆ If corn is being planted after a soybean crop that had a high population of volunteer corn (in excess of about 4,000 corn plants per acre), and rootworm beetles were present, treatment may be warranted.
- ◆ If soil insecticides will be applied, producers may try reduced rates. Reduced rates should be tried on one field or parts of fields until baseline data can be obtained on their effectiveness. Reduced rates are a better bet in fields south of I-70 for 1998.

--Rich Edwards, John Obermeyer, and Larry Bledsoe, Purdue University Entomologists

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