

## Crops Bulletin

May 28, 2009  
Issue 27



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*Serving Clay, Buena  
Vista, Dickinson,  
Emmet, Kossuth, and  
Palo Alto Counties*

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**Black cutworm update.** Black cutworm larvae are expected to be large enough to damage corn on May 31/June 2 in Northwest/North Central Iowa. Use a threshold of 2-3 % cut plants if the larvae are  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in length or less. The threshold is 5% cut plants when larvae are one inch in length or longer.

**Check soybean plant populations.** Research has shown that a final plant population of 100,000 seeds per acre is adequate for maximum soybean yields. Check soybean plant populations using the following info.

Row spacing, in. One plant per foot of row equals plants per acre:

36	15,000
30	18,000
20	26,000
15	35,000
10	52,000
7	75,000

Measure out three foot of row, count the plants and figure the stand count from there. Compare planted seeds per acre to the final plant population.

**Nitrogen tests.** The late spring nitrogen test (LSNT) can be useful to confirm nitrogen (N) levels or nitrogen needs. Fields that have had manure with questionable N content, or fields where N rates were less than planned may be good candidates for the LSNT. See <http://www.agron.iastate.edu/soiltesting/LSN.pdf> for more info.

**Check corn stands.** Check corn plant populations this time of year to help you evaluate:

- Seed characteristics – seed size, and/or seed treatment.
- Planter performance – actual emerged plants per acre versus seed dropped per acre.
- Hybrid differences – emergence, early season vigor.
- Pest problems – cutworms, grubs, wireworms, etc.
- Measure out 17 ft 5 in. for 30 inch rows, 14' 6" for 36 inch rows, 26 ft 1 in. for 20 inch rows to check stands in  $\frac{1}{1000}$ <sup>th</sup> of an acre.
- June 30, Northwest, Sutherland, 9:30 to 1:00.

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