

Crops Bulletin

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Corn aphids. Corn aphids have been found in some fields in northwest Iowa. Existing information on corn aphid management has been focused on aphid infestations at pollination. Less is known about aphid infestations after pollination.

Consider treatment for corn aphids if the following conditions exist.

- Corn aphids are present at the ear leaf and above on 80% of the plants.
- Aphid colonies appear to be increasing.
- Dry weather will increase the potential damage to the corn crop.
- Most labeled corn insecticides will control corn aphids.

Erin Hodgson collected some corn aphids from a field near Fenton in Kossuth county. Those aphids were bird cherry-oat aphids and not corn leaf aphids. This fact does not affect the management decisions, but may raise questions about future corn aphid management decisions.

Soybean aphids.

- Aphids have the potential to damage soybeans for another two - three weeks.
- Soybeans are considered vulnerable to soybean aphid damage through the R5 stage to the early R6 stage.
- The early R6 stage is when there is a full sized soybean in the pod at one of the top four nodes.
- Dry weather or lack of rainfall the next two – three weeks will allow the soybean aphids to have more impact on soybean yields. Consider the potential impact of rainfall and temperature on your aphid decisions.
- Leverage and Baythroid have a 45 day pre-harvest interval (PHI). Most other aphid products have an 18 to 30 day PHI.

Corn fungicides. Many northwest Iowa fields were treated with fungicide for eyespot in the past couple of weeks. The recent hot weather should slow the progress of eyespot. The ideal time to apply fungicides to corn is right after pollination (R1 stage). Many corn fields are now in the blister stage (R2 stage), and therefore may not benefit a great deal from fungicide application.

Crop residue workshop. A Residue Management Training Workshop will be held on August 18 from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the ISU Extension office in Storm Lake. There will be 3.5 Soil/Water credits for Certified Crop Advisors. There is no cost to attend. Preregistration is requested by calling 712-732-5056.