

CROP NOTES for June 19, 2009 – More on Hail Injury

Past issues of Crop Notes are posted at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/info/crops.htm>

Iowa State University Extension Information for Northeast Iowa

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The June 17-18 storm appears to have dropped hail across approximately 150,000 acres in mostly Howard, Chickasaw and Fayette Counties. It is particularly noticeable near towns including Lawler, Waucoma and Hawkeye. Approximately 10% of this area was simply devastated, and the rest ranges anywhere from not too concerned to highly significant injury. This Crop Notes includes a couple of items already sent yesterday, but adds some information shared at a recent hail meeting regarding date-of-planting, plant population, and field assessment information.

MORE ON HAIL INJURY

Corn

1) An updated chart of ISU Extension research on planting date vs. plant population vs. average yield potential is included as the first chart in the pdf attachment “Corn & Soybean Late Planting Info.”

2) As mentioned yesterday, it is best to wait 7 to 10 days after a hail storm to assess injury. However, some fields are obviously devastated. Work with both your Hail Insurance and Crop Insurance people as to whether you might be able to act on some field situations prior to the normal wait period to assess fields. Agreements such as leaving check strips are common.

3) Publication NCH-1 from the National Corn Handbook, sent in the previous Crop Notes, provides a simplified explanation of assessing hail injury to corn:

<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/extmedia/NCH/NCH-1.html>

A more complete discussion on hail is found at the Purdue web site:

<http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/articles.06/HailDamage-0607.html>

4) And, of course, you need to consult herbicide labels of products used if replanting a field to a different crop.

Soybeans

1) The pdf attached (“Corn & Soybean Late Planting Info”) includes a few slides regarding soybean planting date, relative maturity for replants, some herbicide issues, and more.

2) Also attached (“Soybean Hail Injury Information”) are a few pages from the 50-page Hail Adjusters Appraisal Book to help explain assessments on stand loss, lost nodes (broke or cut plants), stem bruising, etc. There is no simple assessment guide as with corn (NCH-1). Soybean are more complicated and assessments require considerable calculations after field evaluations are accomplished. In many cases there may be deferrals to harvest depending on the kind of damage found.

3) As with corn, it is best to wait 7 to 10 days after a hail storm to assess injury. But also as mentioned under the corn heading above, if a field shows obvious devastation, work with both your Hail Insurance and Crop Insurance people as to whether you might be able to act on some field situations prior to the normal wait period to assess fields.

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