

CROP NOTES for July 6, 2009

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

By Brian Lang, ISU Extension Agronomist

911 S. Mill Street, Decorah, IA 52101

563-382-2949

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WEATHER

Degree Days for Corn

INSECTS

Soybean Aphid

DISEASE

Soybean Rust Update

Brown Spot in Soybeans

Foliar Fungicide Applications

MISCELLANEOUS

Yard & Garden... Japanese Beetles

EVENTS

July 17, Ag Professional Tour, Northeast ISU Research Farm, Nashua, CCA credits

July 22, Upper Midwest Manure Handling Expo, Boone

July 23, Iowa Learning Farm / Howard SWCD Field Day, Max Schmidt Farm, Elma

July 29, Practical Farmers of Iowa Field Day, Holland

July 29, Soybean Cyst Nematode Workshop, near Ames

July 30, Corn Nematode Workshop, near Ames

July 30, Howard County Experimental Farm Field Day, Saratoga, Free CCA credits

July-August, Farmland Leasing Meetings, Various Locations in Iowa

July-September, Crop Management and Diagnostic Clinics, Ames (register early)

July 13-14, [Field Diagnostic Clinic](#)

July 15-16, [Crop Management Clinic](#)

Aug 25-27, [Iowa Drainage School](#)

Sept 2, [Alfalfa Production Clinic](#)

Sept 3, [Corn Disease Diagnostics and Management](#)

Sept 15, [Soil Management Clinic](#)

WEATHER

Degree Days for Corn

From May 1 to Present:

Nashua = 932 GDD (120 below normal)

Cedar Rapids = 1,020 GDD (109 below normal)

INSECTS

Soybean Aphid

Yesterday's count at the Decorah research plot was 68% of the plants and averaging 3 aphids per plant. That's 3 weeks in a row with aphids holding at about 70% of the plants infested and averaging about 4 aphids per plant (see pdf attachment). The hot weather two weeks ago and increased beneficial insect presence has held aphid development in check. However, with continued normal temperatures and below normal rainfall I expect aphid development to start increasing again. Currently the 2009 Decorah research plot aphid counts definitely trail the 2007 season, but it is still at a higher presence than the off-aphid-years of 2002, 2004 and 2006. Aphid activity is actually running a little higher in central and northwest Iowa than it is in northeast Iowa. State and National aphid activity can be tracked by viewing the following USDA web site: http://sba.ipmpipe.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi?host=All%20Legumes/Kudzu&pest=soybean_aphid

DISEASE

Soybean Rust Update

In last week's Crop Notes, Dr. Yang's 4-week prediction model on spore movement suggested possibly following up the Mississippi River valley to reach southern Illinois later this month. Dr. Yang's current 4-week prediction model now suggests spore movement to remain in the southern Gulf Coast states. The weather further north became unfavorable for spore movement. The risk of an epidemic in Iowa remains very low. Rust development can be monitored at the following USDA web site: <http://sbr.ipmpipe.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi>

Brown Spot in Soybeans

We have increased reports Brown spot in soybean in the eastern half of the state, with the disease not just on the unifoliate leaves, but also on the 1st and 2nd trifoliate leaves in some fields. This is not necessarily a problem, but please review what I wrote in last week's Crop Notes (see below) to make yourself aware of what to look for when scouting your fields weekly for soybean aphid.

Repeat from last week's Crop Notes: Brown Spot, also called Septoria Leaf Spot, is often present in soybeans to some degree each year. It is present again this season and can be found on lower leaves, mostly the unifoliate leaves in many fields. As long as this disease remains in the lower canopy it will not significantly affect yield. However, if the disease advances up the canopy during the reproductive stages of the plant, it may warrant a foliar fungicide treatment. This situation occurred in 2007 at the Northeast ISU Research Farm near Nashua, where the untreated severe Brown Spot problem (40 to 60% severity) yielded 4 bushel less than the fungicide treated plots, treated at R2-R3 stage. The identical trial in 2008 had a minor Brown spot infestation and no advantage from fungicide application. Odds are heavily in favor that Brown spot remains in the lower canopy and does not become a significant problem. Be careful not to mistake Bacterial blight for Brown spot. Right now Bacterial blight is just beginning to show up in the upper canopy. Foliar fungicide has no effect on Bacterial blight. For photos of these diseases, go to: <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm/1996/7-8-1996/soyfoldis.html>

Foliar Fungicide Applications

Articles on foliar fungicide applications for corn and soybeans will appear later this week in the Integrated Crop Management News at the following web link:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/>

If you want to receive direct email notification of articles written for the ICM News, just subscribe in the upper left corner of the page. It's free.

MISCELLANEOUS

Yard & Garden... Japanese Beetles

The recent article in the Horticulture and Home Pest Newsletter discusses concerns and distribution of Japanese Beetles for the home owner.

<http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/hortnews/2009/7-1/japanesebeetle.html>

EVENTS

July 17, Ag Professional Tour, Northeast ISU Research Farm, Nashua

9:30 am to Noon. The program will highlight a presentation on "*Selecting Precision Farming Systems for your Business/ Farming Operation*" by Matt Darr, ISU Ag Engineer. The program will also include observations and experiences related to current crop growth and development, soil fertility, and pest management problems as they develop across the area. This will include a wagon tour around the farm to view some of the crops and research in progress. Brian Lang and George Cummins, ISU Extension Agronomists, and Ken Pecinovsky, Farm Superintendent, will lead the discussions. 2.5 CCA credits applied form (anticipate 1 PM, 1 CM, 0.5 SW). A \$10 registration fee will be charged at the door (\$25 for CCA credits). Pre-registration is not required.

July 22, Upper Midwest Manure Handling Expo, Boone

8:00 am to 6:00 pm. Many exhibits, equipment and informational programs.

For details, go to: http://www.ag.iastate.edu/wastemgmt/expo_home.htm

July 23, Iowa Learning Farm / Howard SWCD Field Day, Max Schmidt Farm, Elma

More details soon.

July 29, Practical Farmers of Iowa Field Day, Holland

10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Come for the morning, afternoon or both programs. Lunch provided.

10:00 to Noon, Topics include Kura clover cover crop in corn and soybean row-crop production, homemade strip-till implement, rainfall simulator and soil conservation discussed.

1:00 to 3:00, Topics include Beef grazing Kura clover and Reed canarygrass, and pasturing with late summer calving.

The farm is 400 acres, with 135 each in corn and soybeans and some living mulch. The rest is in forages with 55 acres of rotationally grazed Kura clover and Reed Canarygrass, 18 acres of traditional bluegrass pasture and 60 acres with 2 cuttings of hay and a third harvest by cows.

Has 79 cows with calving Aug. 15 to about Oct. 3. Plus 20 acres of CRP: 12 in buffer strips, 7 as pheasant and quail habitat and 1 acre windbreak. Directions: From the west edge of Holland by Remington Seed Plant go 2 miles west on D35 blacktop and 0.4 mile south on J Ave. Or from the intersection of D35 and T19 south of Wellsburg, go 4 miles to J Ave., then 0.4 miles south. Contact information: Fred and Vicki Abels, 20902 J Ave. Holland, IA 319-824-6428 farm50642@webtv.net

July 29, Soybean Cyst Nematode Workshop, near Ames

Dr. Greg Tylka, ISU Extension Nematologist, will be conducting an in depth workshop on SCN at the Ag Information Center, 2.5 miles east of Ames on Hwy 30. Details are provided at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0526tylka.htm> The brochure (Nematode Workshop Flyer) is linked towards the bottom of the article.

July 30, Corn Nematode Workshop, near Ames

Dr. Greg Tylka, ISU Extension Nematologist, will be conducting an in depth workshop on Corn Nematodes at the Ag Information Center, 2.5 miles east of Ames on Hwy 30. Details are provided at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0526tylka.htm> The brochure (Nematode Workshop Flyer) is linked towards the bottom of the article.

July 30, Howard County Experimental Farm Field Day, Saratoga

10:00 am to Noon. The program will include discussions of the on-farm experiments and current crop production, crop scouting and pest issues. The farm is on Hwy 9, just 3.5 miles west of Davis Corners (Jct Hwy 63 & Hwy 9), or 1.5 miles east of Saratoga. Free program, no pre-registration. Free CCA credits. Additional information provided in the next Crop Notes.

July-August, Farmland Leasing Meetings, Various Locations in Iowa

There are numerous Farmland leasing meetings offered across Iowa this summer, although only a few are close to northeast Iowa. Such as July 29 in Linn County and August 6 in Cerro Gordo County. A full list of counties, times, and locations is available at:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/meetings2.html>

July-September, Crop Management and Diagnostic Clinics, Ames

The Field Extension Education Laboratory is a 43-acre teaching and demonstration facility dedicated to providing a hands-on learning experience for crop production professionals. The demonstration plots are used to show a wide range of management problems, solutions, and diagnostic challenges. “We make the mistakes on these plots so you won't in the future!” The clinics and programs are taught by Iowa State University staff and faculty and invited specialists from other institutions and industry. Modern, air-conditioned classroom facilities complement the in-field sessions, all of which are within walking distance. Current open programs for this summer include the following. Just click on the program title (Ctrl + Click) for details:

July 13-14, [Field Diagnostic Clinic](#)

July 15-16, [Crop Management Clinic](#)

Aug 25-27, [Iowa Drainage School](#)

September 2, [Alfalfa Production Clinic](#)

September 3, [Corn Disease Diagnostics and Management](#)

September 15, [Soil Management Clinic](#)

For other Agribusiness Education program information, check out the Homepage at:

<http://www.aep.iastate.edu/homepage.html>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.

Brian J Lang
ISU Extension Agronomist
911 S. Mill Street, Decorah, IA 52101
Ph 563-382-2949
Cell 563-387-7058
Fax 563-382-2940
Email bjlang@iastate.edu