

**CROP NOTES for Aug 12, 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**

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

Sept 15, [Soil Management Clinic](#)

Sept 17, Advances in Precision Ag Expo, ISU Southeast Research Farm, Crawfordsville

**WEATHER**

**Degree Days for Corn**

From May 1 to Present:

Nashua = 1,567 GDD (327 below normal)

Cedar Rapids = 1,670 GDD (352 below normal)

With the recent “warmer” weather is accumulating “normal” GDDs. We stopped falling farther behind on GDDs, but have not gained any either. Elwynn Taylor says to expect the next 2 weeks to be 3 to 6 degrees hotter than usual and perhaps on the dry side across most of the Corn belt.

## **HAIL DAMAGE ISSUES**

### **Gramoxone Inteon for Dry-Down?**

When the hail damage occurred back on July 24, IDALS applied for a Crisis Exemption Label for Gramoxone Inteon in hope that it could offer an option to dry-down standing crop-damaged corn to below 70% moisture for silage harvest. Approximately 2 weeks ago a local agribusiness sprayed a small area of hail damaged corn with Gramoxone to observe and test dry-down of the corn. Standing crop unsprayed corn tested around 84% moisture. After application, during the first 5 to 6 days, moisture dropped about 1% per day. After about 10 days the standing crop leveled off at about 77% moisture. It does not appear to be losing any more moisture. The conclusion based on an extremely limited trial is that it does not appear that the Gramoxone application will get the standing crop below 70% moisture by itself.

### **New Information Added to the Hail Website**

Additional items continue to be added to the Hail Website. Go to:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/disasterrecovery/info/haildamage.htm>

As we get towards grain

## **INSECTS**

### **Corn Leaf Aphid**

As mentioned in last week’s Crop Notes, there are no known thresholds for Corn Leaf Aphids on corn after pollination, however, ISU has suggested the following guidelines or Action Threshold to trigger an insecticide application. “Aphids on or above the ear leaf, increasing in population heavy enough to leave noticeable honey dew on the leaves.” What this Action Threshold attempts to respond to is the chance that deposited honey dew provides a growing medium for sooty mold which can reduce photosynthesis and in turn possibly reduce the ability to maximize grain fill. Climate is also a factor, with aphids being a larger threat in a more drought-stress type of environment. There are other aphids that are also found on corn, however soybean aphid is NOT one of them. For ID of these other aphids go to:

<http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/epublic/live/g1284/build/g1284.pdf>

### **Corn Rootworm**

If there is any corn not pollinated yet, these fields should be watched for the possibility of silk clipping by rootworm beetles. A rescue treatment is warranted if green silks are being clipped to 1/4 inch or less. Once pollinated, silks turn brown and silk clipping is not important. For a photo of silk clipping, go to: [http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/articles.01/Krnl\\_Set-0820-Gallery.html](http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/articles.01/Krnl_Set-0820-Gallery.html)

### **Potato Leafhopper**

Scout weekly until late August. Scouting tips and photos are available in the 2009 ICM article at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0615hodgson.htm>

## Soybean Aphid

Here are the last few weeks of data from the untreated check plots in the research plot near Decorah, including some twice a week scouting. The numbers in ( ) represent aphid counts from insecticide seed treatments in this research trial. Winged aphid numbers continue to increase suggesting the aphid migration and new starts of aphid colonies continue.

Date	Stage	% plants with aphids	Avg aphids/plant	Winged aphids/plant
July 12	R1-R2	60%	3	
July 19	R2	95%	13	
July 26	R3	100%	26 ( 11)	0.05 ( 0.03)
July 29	R3	100%	45	0.2
Aug 1	R4	100%	99 ( 41)	0.6 ( 0.5)
Aug 4	R4	100%	187	1.9
Aug 9	R5	100%	584 (416)	3.0 ( 2.6)
Aug 12	R5	100%	940 (580)	4.5 (11.0)

A podcast covering state-wide soybean aphid activity is posted each week on Monday afternoon (or Tuesday Aug 11 in the case of the last podcast) at:

<http://www.ent.iastate.edu/soybeanaphid/>

Nationally, you can check aphid activity at the USDA web site:

[http://sba.ipmpipe.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi?host=All%20Legumes/Kudzu&pest=soybean\\_aphid](http://sba.ipmpipe.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi?host=All%20Legumes/Kudzu&pest=soybean_aphid)

## DISEASE

### Soybean Rust Update

The risk to Iowa soybeans remains very low. Most soybeans are R5 stage or soon to be. Once soybean reach R6 stage, soybean rust becomes irrelevant. Dr. Yang's latest spore movement prediction map no longer suggests a possible northward spore movement from Gulf areas to Tennessee. The weather changed again to unfavorable for disease establishment. So the rust threat remains just in the states along the Gulf Coast: <http://sbr.ipmpipe.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi>

### Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS)

SDS is now showing up nicely across field areas that were low, wetter spots in spring where the disease was initially present and susceptible varieties were planted. This disease starts as an infection through the roots. Soybean cyst nematode can aid this infection process often making SDS more prevalent in an SCN infested field. No foliar fungicides will control SDS because the leaves do not have a fungus on them. The leaf symptoms are due to a toxin produced by the disease present in the root and now stem region of the plant. Research shows that a crop rotation with corn does NOT reduce SDS presence in the field. Selecting resistant varieties is the most important means for future control. Photos and symptoms are discussed at:

<http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm/2006/9-18/sds.html> Management of this disease is addressed at: <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm/2003/1-21-2003/sdsmanage.html>

## **White Mold**

As with SDS, White Mold is now showing up in many areas across northeast Iowa. The only foliar fungicide recommended in the past has been Topsin, with the application timed around R1 stage before the White Mold symptoms show up. In reading some foliar fungicide labels, I noticed that Domark carries a label for White Mold for an R3 stage application. However, most of the soybean are now R4 to R5 stage. Most important at this time is to recognize the problem, take notes, and identify resistant varieties to use in the future. General information and photos on White Mold can be found at: [http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/soyhealth/pdf/whitemold\\_06.pdf](http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/soyhealth/pdf/whitemold_06.pdf)

## **Downy Mildew**

This is the other current disease seen in most soybean fields right now. The cooler wet July helped this disease get a good start throughout the region. However, pathologists believe that the current warmer weather pattern should slow this disease down. Plus, there are no foliar fungicides labeled for this disease. For a photo ID and a few more comments on Downy Mildew, White Mold and SDS from Dr. Yang go to:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0810yangnavi.htm>

## **EVENTS**

### **Aug 18-21, The Dairy Financial Situation Meetings, Various Locations in Iowa**

People in the dairy industry are invited to attend one of the four remaining workshops across Iowa to gain information that will help them deal with the current challenges created by the global economy. Details about the program at listed at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2009/jul/161702.htm>

Aug. 18 - Dubuque County Extension office, 14858 West Ridge Lane, Dubuque

Aug. 19 - Elkader AEA Building, 1400 2nd Street NW, Elkader

Aug. 20 - Jones County Extension office/Jones County Farm Bureau, 605 E. Main

Aug. 21 - Freedom Security Bank, 402 B Avenue, Kalona

### **Aug-Sept, 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:

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>

**Sept 2, Grand Opening of the Borlaug Learning Center, Northeast ISU Research Farm, Nashua**

Inside exhibits, wagon tours and more. Details coming soon.

**Sept 17, Advances in Precision Ag Expo, ISU Southeast Research Farm, Crawfordsville**

10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Come see the latest in precision ag technology, including RTK guidance systems, auto-steer, automatic shut-off planters and sprayers. The expo will feature field demonstrations and industry exhibits on the latest technology. For details about the program and exhibitor information go to:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/eccrops/09apaexhibitorbrochure.pdf>

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