

CROP NOTES for October 1, 2009

Past issues of Crop Notes are posted at:

www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/info/crops.htm

Iowa State University Extension Information for Northeast Iowa

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WEATHER

Degree Days for Corn

From May 1 to Present:

Nashua = 2,307 GDD (368 below normal)

Cedar Rapids = 2,293 GDD (490 below normal)

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Corn Grain

Most corn in northeast Iowa is $\frac{3}{4}$ milk line to just reaching physiological maturity. Three-quarter milk line is still about 5 to 7 “September” days to black layer, longer with “October” days.

Three-quarter milk line has about 97% DM accumulation in the grain. Practically no direct yield loss from frost, but certainly still contributes to issues of dry-down relative to “normal” timely corn maturation.

For late planted or replanted corn not as far along, if a frost occurs, Iowa State University Extension has a publication that discusses grain harvest issues with immature corn and soybeans affected by an early frost. Go to: www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1635.pdf

Corn Silage

Silage harvest is complete in many areas and still on hold in some areas with the crop still too wet. Testing for proper harvest moisture is key. The most accurate means to test for silage moisture is with the Koster Tester. Information on this is available at:

www.kostercroptester.net/ A microwave oven can also be useful. Directions for using a microwave oven are included in the following publication:

www.cheboygancoop.com/animalscience/general/dr14.pdf

Soybeans

Other than some replanted soybeans following a June hail storm, most soybeans are R7 to R8 stage. R7 is very near 100% DM, so is basically frost safe. Soybean harvest is just underway with good yields being reported (in the 50's and 60's).

For late planted soybeans, if they can at least reach R6.5 stage (90% DM accumulation), yield loss and harvest issues will be quite manageable. Iowa State University Extension has a publication that discusses grain harvest issues with immature corn and soybeans affected by an early frost. Go to: www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1635.pdf The combination of diseases, cooler weather and shorter days appears to be speeding some of these late planted soybean acres towards maturity, with some of the late June planted beans well into R6.5 stage at this time (leaf color change and leaf drop quite evident). A brief explanation of soybean stages are provided at: http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/soybean/production_growthstages.html

HAIL DAMAGE

Hail Damage Grain Issues

To aid decision-making issues with hail damaged grain, producers and grain handlers can go through a short checklist provided at:

www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0929hurburghrobertson.htm

Adjusting Hail-Damaged Crops for Crop Insurance Reporting

The following link is to an article by Dr. William Edwards on this issue.

www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0929edwards.htm

PRE-HARVEST WEED CONTROL

Herbicide Harvest Aids

The following link provides a table of herbicides available for pre-harvest applications in corn or soybean to assist grain harvest.

ipm.illinois.edu/bulletin/article.php?id=1219

MOLDS & MYCOTOXINS

Sources, Effects & Recommendations

The ISU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory posted a 6-page paper to provide information about mycotoxins commonly found in Iowa, including their sources, conditions favoring production, health effects, and recommendations for use of contaminated feed. Go to: <http://vetmed.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/vdl/MycotoxinInfo.pdf>

INSECTS

Soybean Aphid Update

Just an FYI comment about Soybean Aphid... they remained at high levels in the research trial at Decorah all the way to leaf drop (Sept. 25). Winged aphids moving to the buckthorn were at the highest levels ever... 100's to even a 1,000 fold higher than for other years. I saw some of this myself on buckthorn near Decorah. But I doubt if anyone knows what this means for 2010, because the high population of aphids that I saw on buckthorn on Sept. 21 were nearly all dead by Sept. 31 from a fungal disease rapidly moving through the population. In this case, certainly not enough time for egg laying. I am sure this insect will once again be discussed at programs during winter as to what we think the 2009 activity means for 2010.

FERTILITY

Fall Stalk Nitrate Test

Some of you may be interested in sending in some Stalk Nitrate Test samples, and others may actually be required to do so, i.e. if it's a requirement in a CSP contact or related program. If sending your samples to ISU, the sample submission form to use is at:

www.agron.iastate.edu/soiltesting/CSN.pdf

The test is \$11 per sample. Instructions on taking a good sample is included in the following publication: www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1584.pdf

FORAGES

New Dairy Grazing Presentation on the Web

Nice overview with some detailed discussions on management intensive grazing for dairy. Go to: <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/grazing>

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Finpack

Helps you organize and analyze the current financial situation of your farm, answering the question, "Where am I?" Next, FINPACK will help you explore alternatives within your ag business, helping you to answer the question: "Where do I want to be?" After projections are analyzed, FINPACK provides you with the information to make better decisions about your ag business: "How do I get there?" .all of which helps you better manage your operation.

FinPack Associates in eastern and central Iowa:

Mike Borcherdig, 641-736-2104, mborcher@omnitelcom.com

Charles Morine, 563-245-2162, chuckm@alpinecom.net

Stan Geiken, 319-472-3947, sgeiken@gmail.com

David Enriken, 515-832-2647, df1943@wmtel.net

Legal Resources

IOWA CONCERN HOTLINE 1-800-447-1985 – A 24/7 phone line to connect you with a resource person to get assistance on financial concerns, legal question, or stress. 24-hour access to confidential assistance.

CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL LAW AND TAXATION provides timely, objective information to producers, professionals and agribusinesses concerning the application of important developments in the law (federal and state legal opinions of relevance, as well as critical legislative developments), and is a primary source of professional educational training in agricultural law and taxation. Web page www.calt.iastate.edu/ or call 515-294-5217.

EVENTS

Oct 7, Pasture-Walk Event, Decorah

1:00 to 3:00 pm, hosted by William Pardee on his farm at 1558 Manawa Trail. The grazing field day will emphasize discussions on pasture-finished beef, converting CRP to pasture, and grazing Dexter cattle. Directions: From Decorah, go north on Locust Rd. 4 miles, then east on Canoe Ridge Rd. (A-38) 1.2 miles, then east on Middle Sattre Rd. 0.5 miles, then east on Manawa Trail 1.4 miles to the farm.

Oct. 8, Forestry Field Day, Yellow River State Forest Headquarters

9:00-3:00 at the Yellow River State Forest Headquarters. Learn the latest research based information on woodland management. Hosted by ISU Extension and DNR Foresters. For details call the Allamakee County Extension Office 563-568-6345.

Oct., Nov., Dec, Farm Income Tax School

This program is designed for those experienced in preparing tax returns for others and an understanding of basic tax rules and regulations. Two-day sessions at various locations across Iowa. For more information, go to: <http://www.calt.iastate.edu/taxschool.html>

Nov. 5, Ag Lenders Seminar, Midway Motel, Dubuque

10:00-3:00, Annual meeting for ag lenders. More information to follow.

Nov. 18, Pasture-Walk Event, Dorchester

1:00 to 3:00 pm, hosted by Ryan and Kristine Jepsen on their farm at 2712 Hoover Dr., Dorchester. The grazing field day will emphasize this New farm in 2007 raising and direct marketing grass-fed beef, and strip grazing on standing corn. Directions: From Dorchester, take A-16 (Dorchester Dr.) west 5 miles to Hoover Dr. The farm is at the end of Hoover Dr.

Nov. 24, Ag Chemical Dealer Update, Calmar & Waterloo

Details to be posted soon. Each meeting provides crop production updates on soil fertility and crop pests (insects, diseases, weeds), plus meets requirements for re-certification of Commercial Pesticide Applicators in categories 1A, 1B, 1C, and 10 for 2009. Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) credits also available.

Dec. 2-3, Integrated Crop Management Conference, Ames

Details to be posted in within 2 weeks at the following web site:

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

Dec. 11, Cerro Gordo and Worth County Crop Clinics

Details to be posted soon. Locations: Lutheran Church, Northwood; United Methodist Church, 508 2nd Av N, Clear Lake.

Dec. 17, Chickasaw/Floyd County Crop Clinic, Raleigh Hill Country Club, 2048 Cheyenne Av., Ionia

Registration starts at 9:00. Morning program includes Elwynn Taylor, ISU Extension Climatologist on "Crop Weather Outlook", and Chad Hart, ISU Extension Marketing Specialist on "Outline Marketing Strategies for Lowering Risks and Maximizing Profits". From 1:00 to 2:00 Brian Lang, ISU Extension Agronomist discusses "Corn and Soybean Aphids" and "Corn and Soybean Diseases in 2009". From 2:00 to 3:00 are required topics for Private Pesticide Applicator re-certification. Those wanting re-certification are required to attend the program from 1:00 to 3:00, but are welcome to attend the entire program. Those not requiring Private Pesticide Applicator re-certification are welcome to stay through 2:00 pm.

There is no charge for the morning program and the noon meal is free due to sponsors Five Star Co-op, Qualisoy, Farm Credit Services, and the Floyd, Mitchell and Chickasaw County Farm Bureaus. However producers must register for the noon meal. Those attending for Private Pesticide Applicator re-certification pay a \$20 fee at the door. Certified Crop Advisor credits will also be available at \$20 for the day (1 CM 9:30-10:30, 1 PD 10:30-11:30, 1PM 1:00-2:00). To register, contact the Floyd County Extension office at 641-228-1453.

Commercial Pesticide Applicator Re-certification Programs

For registration information on these programs, go to:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pme/ComAp.html>

Oct. 10, 9:00-11:30, Roadside, Forest & Aquatic, Cat. 2, 5, 6, and 10.

Oct. 28, 9:00-11:30, Mosquito and Public Health, Cat. 7D, 8 and 10.

Nov. 4, 1:30-4:00, Ornamental and Turfgrass, Cat. 2, 3O, 3OT, and 10.

Nov. 18, 9:00-11:45, Commercial Ag, Cat. 1A, 1B, 1C, and 10.

Dec. 1, 9:00-11:00, Fumigation, Cat. 7C and Cat 10.

Dec. 2, 9:00-11:30, Pest Control Operators, Cat. 7A, 7B, 8, and 10.

TBA, Greenhouse, Cat. 3G, 3O, and 10.

TBA, Aerial Applicators, Cat. 11 and 10.

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.

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