



Mark Licht
Extension Field Agronomist
1205 West U.S. Highway 30,
Suite G
Carroll, IA 51401
Tel: 712-792-2364
Cell: 712-790-7233
Fax: 712-792-2366
Email: lichtma@iastate.edu

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[Corn Row Spacing Field Day](#)
[Field Guides](#)
[The Rust Report](#)
[Uneven Corn Heights](#)
[Aphid Alert](#)
[Elwynn Taylor's Twitter](#)
[ICM News](#)
[Center for Ag Law and Taxation](#)
[Ag Decision Maker](#)
[IDALS Sensitive Crops Directory](#)

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Soybean Aphid Update

Soybean aphids continue to be low across west central Iowa at the present time. Continue to check for soybean aphid populations in the coming weeks. The weather conditions the last two weeks was favorable for aphid development. Remember from past years that aphid damage to soybeans can occur until the R5.5 growth stage or another 4 to 5 weeks.

The insecticides that are commonly used for soybean aphids have about 7 to 10 days of actual insecticide residual. Soybean aphid numbers can recover about 7 to 10 days after the insecticide residue has dissipated resulting in a 3 week effective residual period. Therefore, hold off on insecticide applications until aphid populations have reached threshold to gain the upper hand.

Corn Plant Populations and Row Spacing Field Day

Corn plant populations and row spacing will be the focus of a field day sponsored by ISU Extension in Sac County on August 20, from 9am to 11am. This field day will discuss current and projected plant populations as well as look at the reasons for a movement toward 20-inch row spacing. Dale Drey, a local famer, will host the event at his field located on Quincy Avenue northwest of Sac City. The farm is located 1.75 mile north of highway 20.

ICM News Must Read Articles

Here is a link to an [ICM News](#) article that I feel is a must read.

- [Use Treatment Thresholds for Western Bean Cutworm](#)
- [Notes on Soybean Foliar Fungicide Applications in a Cool, Wet Year](#)
- [Further Considerations for Foliar Fungicides on Corn and Soybeans](#)
- [Eyespot and Gray Leaf Spot Severity Continue to Increase in Iowa](#)

Soybean Sunscald (aka Sunburn)

Soybean sunscald has occurred across western Iowa this spring/summer as a result of winds and clear days occurring in sequence. The first fields I noticed with sunscald were a result of 90*+ days at the end of June and as recently as two weeks ago.

Symptoms appear as rusty discoloration on the under side of the soybean leaf. Usually there are 'shadows' where the sun did not reach a portion of the leaf. This can often be confused with Cercospora. Cercospora typically effects the topside of the leaf and are leathery brown discolorations. Both sunscald and Cercospora, rarely cause detrimental damage to the soybean.

Gray Leaf Spot and Eyespot

Now is the time to check fields Gray Leaf Spot and Eyespot. I heard of fields with Eyespot being treated in central and north central Iowa. Also, fields are being treated for Gray Leaf Spot in southwest Iowa. Thresholds for both are not available at the present time, although there is a research project underway, lead by Alison Robertson, ISU plant pathology, to define an accurate Gray Leaf Spot threshold.

Residue Management Training Workshop

Crop residue plays a significant role in improving soil quality, reducing soil erosion, increasing soil organic matter, and provides numerous other benefits towards soil productivity. ISU and SARE are putting on a Residue Management Training Workshop on August 18 from 9am to 3pm at the ISU Extension office, in Storm Lake. There will be 3.5 credits in Soil and Water Management for Certified Crop Advisors. Registration is free, but preregistration is requested at the Buena Vista County Extension office (712-732-5056) prior to the event.

Residue Management Training Workshop

**ISU Extension
Buena Vista County Office
Storm Lake
August 18, 2009
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**



Crop residue plays a significant role in improving soil quality, reducing soil erosion, increasing soil organic matter, and provides numerous other benefits towards improving soil productivity. Proper management of crop residue requires an understanding of its basic functions and values. Appropriate implementation of residue management will help maximize these soil improving benefits.

This workshop targets agricultural professionals including Extension, NRCS and FSA personnel, Crop consultants, Ag dealers and other individuals interested in soil and water quality.

Workshop objectives:

1. Provide training on the role of crop residue in improving soil and water quality.
2. Show the importance of residue in improving soil organic matter.
3. Present management alternatives for handling crop residue.

Workshop topics:

- Iowa Learning Farm and Western Research and Demonstration Farm residue removal trial
- Implement adjustment for better residue management
- Residue management and its value to soil quality and carbon credit
- Cover crops, erosion and nitrogen-leaching
- Farmer panel with open discussion: conservation practices and issues

No registration fee is required, but pre-registration is requested.

This program includes lunch and provides 3.5 credits in Soil and Water Management for Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs). For preregistration please call the Buena Vista County Extension Office (712) 732-5056 or ISU Agronomy Extension (515) 294-1923.

Directions to the office: From Hwy 7, go to the intersection of Hwy. 7 and Russell Drive. The office is located in the Prairie Lakes Agency building at 824 Flindt Drive with parking just west of Dairy Queen.

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Corn Plant Populations & Row Spacing Field Day

Sponsored by ISU Extension – Sac County



Join ISU Extension specialists for a field day featuring talks on:

- Current and projected plant populations
- Reasons for a movement to 20-inch row spacing
- Equipment considerations when moving to narrow-row corn

Speakers: *Roger Elmore*, ISU Extension corn specialist

Mark Hanna, ISU Extension agricultural engineer

When: Thursday, August 20, 2009

From: 9:00-11:00 a.m. (*Refreshments at 8:45 a.m.*)

Where: Northwest of Sac City, IA

Cost: Free

Host: Dale Drey, a local farmer

Location: 1.75 miles north of Highway 20 on Quincy Avenue

For more information, contact:

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