

For What It's Worth...

All in all last week was a nice week compared with what we have been seeing as far as weather is concerned. I believe there was a rough range of 0.25 to 1.25 inches of rain across the area and several sunny, rain free days. I hope those days were used to catch up on scouting fields and assessing those acres affected by flooding, ponding or saturated conditions. Overall, where saturated conditions are not causing problems, the corn looks pretty good. And well the soybeans look fair. It will be several more days and possibly more than a week to get equipment in to do replanting or cover crop planting.

Soybean Considerations; Bean Leaf Beetles and SCN

Bean Leaf Beetles—BLB are out there and they are doing some damage. This is still the overwintering generation that is causing problems. The first note is this spring has been cool and that will extend the life of the BLB by a little. Normally, BLB have died off by June 20th but now it will be later due to the cool temperatures. Secondly, at this point it is too late to spray an insecticide. The damage has already been done and they have laid their eggs, likely before June 15th.

Soybean Cyst Nematodes—Now's the time to look for SCN. Dig plants and look for cysts on soybean roots. It is normal for SCN resistant varieties to have some cysts on their roots because the varieties vary in the level of resistance to the pest. In cases with resistant varieties and high cyst levels, make a note for future variety selection. Also, through a talk with Greg Tylka, ISU plant pathologist, I learned that SCN are not as prolific in years that are cool and wet. So, unless it turns dry, one could expect lower cyst reproduction this year than previous years.

Nitrogen Concerns

I don't really know where to start with this one. Many fields are showing unevenness and/or yellowing that is associated with nitrogen problems. Part of this is due to compounded stress with poor root development, saturated soils and even corn following corn conditions. The corn will recover but it is going to be slow. I've also heard from many of you indicating that late spring nitrate tests have been coming back extremely low. This is not surprising to me based on the amount of leaching and denitrification potential we have had already this spring. In wet years, and my personal opinion, the late spring nitrate test struggles to give an accurate indication of nitrogen in the soil. This year is compounded between loss and denitrification and the fact that weather conditions likely have slowed the bacterial conversion of anhydrous to nitrate. For more information hit the following articles that are also posted on the ICM News web page;

[Nitrogen Loss—How Does it Happen?](#)

[Estimating Nitrogen Losses](#)

[Measuring Nitrogen Status](#)

[Yellow Corn, Wet Soils and N Loss](#)

A couple good ISU Extension publications are:

Mark Licht
Field Agronomist
Iowa State University Extension
1205 W. U.S. Hwy 30, Ste. G
Carroll, IA 51401
Tel: (712) 792-2364
Fax: (712) 792-2366
Email: lichtma@iastate.edu

Serving; Calhoun,
Carroll, Crawford,
Greene, Ida,
Monona and
Sac counties.

Web pages to View:

- [Sensing Nitrogen Stress in Corn](#)
- [Nitrogen Fertilizer Recommendations for Corn in IA](#)
- [Soybean Replant Decisions](#)
- [Corn Planting Guide](#)
- [Field Extension Education Laboratory](#)
- [ICM News](#)
- [Sensitive Crops Directory](#)
- [Iowa 4-Inch Soil Temperatures By County](#)
- [Planter Tips](#)
- [Soybean Factsheets](#)
- [Soybean Disease & Pest Management Field Guide](#)

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.