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Crop Update

Last week was a very good week for making huge progress on soybean planting and I would guess that the last of corn planting got wrapped up. I have seen corn at nearly the 4th leaf stage clear down to just emerging. Soybeans are at the cotyledon to emerging stages. The rains expected this week should help with soybean emergence, while the sunny weather of last week helped green up the corn.

Black Cutworm Scouting Projection

Last Thursday, there was an article in the ICM news with the scouting projections for black cutworms. For west central Iowa scouting should be occurring now (actual date was May 24th).

Scout by checking 50 plants at 5 places within a field weekly until plants get to the 5th leaf stage. More information is on the [ICM News](#).

Soybean Cyst Nematode Workshop

The soybean cyst nematode (SCN) is widely considered the most damaging soybean pest in the Midwest. Effective long-term management of SCN requires thorough knowledge of SCN biology and use of field scouting, resistant soybean varieties, and non-host crops in an integrated management approach. An all-day workshop focused on SCN will be held on Wednesday, July 29, 2009, in Ames. Topics of discussion at the workshop will include: basic biology of SCN; how the nematode modifies living soybean cells to support itself; proper techniques for in-season scouting and soil sampling for SCN; integrated management of SCN to maintain profitable soybean production; and how performance of SCN-resistant soybean varieties varies among SCN-infested fields. [Brochures available here.](#)

Corn Nematode Workshop

There is increased interest in plant-parasitic nematodes as pests of corn. On Thursday, July 30, 2009, there will be an all-day workshop in Ames focused on the basics of the biology and management of corn nematodes. Specific topics of discussion in the workshop will include: review of the nematode species that can damage corn; corn nematode life cycles and feeding habits; symptoms of nematode damage on corn; how to sample to determine if nematodes are damaging corn; and current and future management options for nematodes on corn. [Brochures available here.](#)

