

Extension Crop Update

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This newsletter, and previous issues from last year, can be found on-line at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/plymouth/info/cropupdate.htm>

So, what's with the weather? I don't know. And I admit it! However, Dr. Elwynn Taylor, our ISU Extension Climatologist, indicated this morning on our weekly Crop Teleconference that it looks like one of those years where we go from winter to summer with very little spring in between. Weather systems seem to be setting up for that early summer pattern to possibly establish in about three weeks. As usual, this can always change! However, even with good soil moisture and a wetter than average start, the risk of drought stress during the summer has not gone away. Early season management, tillage and planting, can be critical to how well roots get established if a dry environment establishes later.

What's the soil temperature? Check out this web page for an update:

<http://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/data/agclimate/soil-hilo-out.png>. How many days are available for field work on average? See this ISU publication developed from data in the weekly "Iowa Crop Report":

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/>.

"The sins of planting ... can haunt you all season." Establishment of an even stand of corn and developing healthy roots that can handle moisture stress later, these are two good reasons to do a great job planting the seed into proper conditions. To help you prepare to do it right, review Ohio State University's publication titled "Tips to Reduce Planter Performance Effects on Corn Yield." Find it here: <http://ohioline.osu.edu/agf-fact/pdf/0150.pdf>.

Have you ever wondered how much uneven emergence might be costing you? See the article "Tools to Calculate Yield Loss from Uneven Heights" developed by our ISU Extension Corn specialists Roger Elmore and Lori Abendroth:

<http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/corn/production/management/early/height.html>. This could be very helpful if you ever get into a replant evaluation situation at a later date.

In addition, review the ISU "Corn Planting Guide" found on this web page:

<http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/corn/production/management/planting/>.

Three more items of interest – One of the most frequently requested publications from NW Iowa Extension Offices is the "Iowa Custom Rate Survey." Do you want a copy? Here it is:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/crops/pdf/a3-10.pdf>

Iowa Farmer Today, in conjunction with ISU Extension's Corn and Soybean Initiative, has a web site "blog" with several people making weekly comments from around Iowa. This year I have been recruited to be a "blogger." To see this site, go to <http://www.iowafarmertoday.com/blog/>.

Recently I have received quite a few soil fertility questions. ISU Extension's Soil Fertility web site has helped me answer a lot of those questions. They recently redesigned this page, so check it out: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/soilfertility/>.

Thanks for "Subscribing!" For more information contact:

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