

## Crops Bulletin

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*Serving Clay, Buena Vista, Dickinson, Emmet, Hancock, Kossuth, Palo Alto, and Winnebago Counties*

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**Black cutworm.** There have been a few reports of damage from black cutworm feeding. The threshold for  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch and smaller larvae is 2-3% cut plants. Five percent cutting is needed to justify treatment if larvae are one inch or larger. Larvae will pupate and quit feeding once they are larger than 1.25 inch. Corn is much less susceptible to cutworm damage once it reaches the V5 stage. Dry surface soil may reduce control. However, cutworm larvae will feed at the surface during overnight hours and will be exposed to the applied insecticide.

**Growing degree days (GDD).** There is a web page that provides [growing degree day information at the ISU Research farms](#). You can enter the starting date in a drop-down menu and get GDD accumulations for all the ISU research farms. The best way to find the research farm page is to go to [Agronomy Extension site](#) and look for the research farm link in the lower right hand corner of the page.

**Check soybean plant populations.** Research has shown that a final plant population of 100,000 seeds per acre is adequate for maximum soybean yields. Check soybean plant populations using the following info.

Row spacing, in.	One plant per foot of row equals plants per acre:
36	15,000
30	18,000
20	26,000
15	35,000
10	52,000
7	75,000

Measure out three foot of row, count the plants and figure the stand count from there. Compare planted seeds per acre to the final plant population.

An emerged stand of 100,000 plants or more is desirable. Consider replanting if stands are very uneven and are less than 70,000 plants per acre.

**Frosted corn report.** Most area corn fields recovered from the May 9 frost. Some early planted corn received more damage and was replanted. The emerged corn in the later planting dates had a fair amount of leaf tie-ups. However, the recent warm and windy weather helped the corn to recover and leaf tie ups to break free.