

Crops Bulletin

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

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Soybean aphids. Aphids have been found in Iowa this week – in central and northeast Iowa. The University of Minnesota reports aphids near Lambertton MN. The U of MN have seen aphid numbers decline recently and have found very low numbers in their suction traps.

Check fields for soybean aphids in the upper canopy. Fields located near wooded areas may be infested first. The treatment threshold is an average of 250 aphids per plant and with the aphid number on the increase. The economic injury level is 1000 aphids per plant (the point where treatment costs equal yield loss).

Should the threshold for treatment be lowered in view of current soybean prices? The 250 aphids/plant threshold is fairly conservative - since it sometimes takes 2000 aphids/plant or more to cause economic injury. Therefore, the threshold remains at 250 aphids per plant.

Bean leaf beetle. First generation bean leaf beetles (BLB) are beginning to emerge in central Iowa. Expect to see BLB numbers to increase through the end of July.

Fungicides for corn. Soon it will be decision time for fungicide applications for corn. The research from ISU from 2007 showed the most yield response to fungicide when corn leaf disease was present. The ISU research showed an increase in stalk quality and slightly wetter grain moisture at harvest. See <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm/2007/12-10/foliarfun.html> for more info.

See <http://www.ipm.uiuc.edu/bulletin/article.php?id=976> to read an article by Carl Bradley from Univ. of Illinois about fungicide use on corn. Another good article is by Alison Robertson at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2008/0703Robertson.htm>

Replant options. Soybeans are no longer a good option for replant after July 10. The following are some options for hay or forage.

Crop	dry hay yield, ton/acre.
German millet, one cut	1-2
Japanese millet, multi-cut	1-3
Sudangrass, multi-cut	1-3
Sorghum-sudan hybrids	2-4
Grain bearing forage sorghum	8-10 (wet silage yield)

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