

Crop Happenings

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*Serving Boone,
Hamilton, Hardin,
Humboldt, Marshall,
Story, Tama, Webster,
and Wright County*

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Soybean aphid update. In early June, Brian Lang, Extension Field Agronomist from Decorah, found soybean aphids in his research plots. Soybean aphids have also been found at the ISU Research Farm near Nashua. They collected a single aphid in their suction trap last week --- a notable event according to researchers – and they found a few aphids on soybeans in the field. Collecting the winged aphid would indicate that aphids are moving from overwintering sites to soybean fields. Dr. John Hinz, Bayer CropScience, found soybean aphids in his plot near Cambridge on June 10th. It's time to start watching for early infestations of soybean aphid. Dr. Hinz has an excellent early scouting tip: watch for predators such as Asian ladybeetles on leaves as an indicator of aphids.

Cutworms now? Watch re-planted corn fields for black cutworm feeding. Many of these fields are at stage VE or V1 and very susceptible to BCW feeding. Although we watch cutworm moth flights earlier in the year, many of us tend to forget that the flights DO continue. It's just not a concern because corn that is at stage V4 or larger is not injured by BCW feeding.

Northern Iowa Research Farm Field Day. The annual summer field day will be June 25th at the ISU Research Farm located near Kanawha. In addition to the weather review field day topics will be soybean aphid management, introducing new traits into soybeans, corn research update, and current problems in corn and soybeans. Refreshments will be available at 9:00; the tour starts at 9:30.

Recent ICM NEWS articles. Several excellent articles have recently been posted on the [Integrated Crop Management NEWS](#) web page. Topics include weed control in Round-Up Ready[®] crops, plant disease updates, soybean aphids, corn & soybean management, and weed control issues. You can also find the newsletters from all the Extension field agronomists on the ICM NEWS page.

Watch for ECB moths. USDA researchers at the Corn Genetics Lab are reporting high numbers of European corn borer (ECB) moth captures in their light traps this spring. They are also noting high numbers of moths in ditches and grassy areas next to corn. Farmers may want to scout Bt refuge areas for corn borer egg masses and early feeding. See the [article posted on June 16th](#) in the ICM NEWS that discusses ECB and their management. The control thresholds are provided in a worksheet contained in this article.

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