

Extension Crop Update

This newsletter, and previous issues from recent years, can be found on-line at:

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

June 26, 2009

Volume 12, Issue #11



Prepared by

Joel DeJong,

Extension Field Agronomist

Plymouth County Extension
24 1st St. NW
LeMars, IA 51031
Phone: (712) 546-7835 e-mail:
jldejong@iastate.edu

*Serving Cherokee,
Lyon, O'Brien,
Osceola, Plymouth,
Sioux and Woodbury
Counties in NW Iowa.*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.

Making a Hail decision? There have been a few scattered hailstorms in NW Iowa this past week. If you can be patient, it is best to wait at least 3 days after a hail to evaluate – to see where new growth comes from. In beans, if new growth comes below bruises or cut-off areas, this plant will survive and be OK. In corn, if the growing point is healthy (you need to split a few to see!), and new growth is showing on those plants – and they will make it through the tangled leaves, these plants will survive, too. Here is a good reference for making a replant decision for corn: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/corn/production/management/planting/replanting.html>

And soybeans: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1851.pdf>

Roger Elmore, our ISU Extension Corn Specialist, recently wrote an article in ICM News on hail injury to corn:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/061901.htm>. It has good loss estimate information in it, too.

NW Research Farm Field Day June 30: Next Tuesday, June 30 is the NW Research Farm Field Day at the farm near Calumet in O'Brien County. Speakers include Elwynn Taylor, widely known ISU Extension Climatologist, discussing "Cropping Season Weather Considerations for 2009;" Roger Elmore, ISU Extension Corn Production Specialist, addressing "Recent Corn Planting Population Research Results;" Alison Robertson, ISU Extension Plant Pathologist discussing multiple years of corn and soybean fungicide research results; and Matt Darr, an Agricultural Engineer relatively new to ISU presenting "Practical Considerations for GPS Technology." As an addition to the typical morning program format, Darr will present an afternoon session beginning at 1:00 pm where field demonstrations of the accuracy of different GPS signals will be shown, and a discussion led about how to make the new DOT RTK network work for you. Ag Partners from Calumet will also be demonstrating a tractor set up with GPS from their operation.

Field day activities get underway with registration and coffee at 9 a.m. with the program beginning at 9:30 a.m. Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) credits will be offered. The main program will conclude at noon, and the optional afternoon session should be completed by about 2:30. A noon lunch will be available at the site - for about \$6. If participants choose to not eat at the field day, attendance is free! In case of rain, the event will be held at the American Legion Hall in Sutherland.

The farm is located 1/4 mile east of Highway 59 on B-62, approximately two miles south of Calumet.

Extension Crop Update, continued

Scout Now for Potato Leafhoppers in Alfalfa – Get out your sweep net and scout for leafhoppers. Also review what Erin Hodgson, the new ISU Extension Entomologist, recently wrote in an excellent article on leafhopper management for ICM News: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0615hodgson.htm>. If you start seeing a lot of “hopper burn,” you’ve missed the best part of the treatment window!

Soybean aphid. Soybean aphids have been found in Northeast Iowa, Central Iowa, near Sioux Rapids, and I also have had a report from Lyon County. Aphids have also been found in states adjoining Iowa. The discovery of soybean aphids at this time of the growing season is not unusual – but it does serve as a reminder to check fields for this insect pest. The treatment threshold remains the same – 250/plant, and I would begin looking at least weekly in the near future. Extension Entomologist Erin Hodgson recently wrote a good article about the potential of this pest in the ICM News: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0624hodgson.htm>

It is NOT time to automatically treat (quick surveys conducted last year indicated that many who treated in early July in NW Iowa before populations existed still had to retreat in August), but it IS a good time to begin watching out for this pest!

Mark your Calendar:

*July 22, 2009 – We are loading a bus from LeMars and Sioux Center to go to the **Upper Midwest Manure Handlers Expo** near Boone. This show will feature dry and liquid applicator demonstrations, biosecurity, safety, spill management, other concurrent learning opportunities, and an array of other activities! See their website for details: http://www.ag.iastate.edu/wastemgmt/expo_home.htm

We have already found some sponsors to help cover some of the cost of a bus going down to the Expo. Thanks to Roda Manufacturing, Farmers Co-op Society (Sioux Center), Farmers Cooperative Company (Hinton, LeMars, Oyens, Akron) and the Hull Co-op for helping us out on this. Because of their help, it will cost only \$20/person to get to the site and get into the field day!

For those who want to ride the bus, a very limited fee will be charged to cover remaining expenses, and registration is needed. If you might be interested in riding a bus to this event, let me know – I will be starting a list on a “first-come, first-served” basis. Drop me an e-mail to reserve a seat!

"Thanks for Subscribing!"