

## Crop Happenings

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Prepared by  
**John Holmes,**  
Extension Field  
Agronomist

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**Weather note.** Severe storms came through central Iowa last Tuesday and Wednesday. Check fields for green snap – several incidences have been reported. Our cool, dry weather will be welcomed by all.

**Soybean aphid update.** Drs. Erin Hodgson and Palle Pedersen report that soybean aphids can usually be found in soybean fields now. Scouting involves looking at “hundreds of leaves” according to Dr. Hodgson. It was their opinion that soybean aphids can probably be found in most fields at very low levels now. Bottom line: watch those areas that have problems with aphids first.

**Corn Rootworm.** Corn rootworm larvae can now be found in corn fields. Check fields for damage by digging and washing a few roots. Damage will appear as scarred roots or roots that are pruned to within an inch of the corn. See [“Time to Scout for Corn Rootworm Larvae”](#) in ICM NEWS. Dr. Jon Tolefson, ISU Entomologist, expects to see adult beetles emerging very soon. Watch for them.

**Japanese beetles.** Two of the Extension field agronomists reported finding Japanese beetles in fields during our morning teleconference today. Check fields that traditionally have problems. The threshold remains 20% defoliation.

**Soybean weed management.** Dr. Micheal Owen recently wrote [“Weeds are Winning the Battle, Plan Now for Next Year.”](#) for the ICM Newsletter. He noted the importance of pre-emergence herbicides. Mike’s work has shown the importance early weed control in protecting soybean yields.

**Equisetum publication.** You will hear *Equisetum* called lots of things: snake weed, joint weed, and field horsetail. Whatever you call it, this weed is causing serious problems in road ditches and is creeping in along field edges. Dr. Robert Hartzler has researched *equisetum* management and has written [“Equisetum Biology and Management.”](#) You may want to print a copy and have in the truck as reference.

Prepared by John Holmes, Extension Field Agronomist  
Phone (515) 532-3453, Email: [jdholmes@iastate.edu](mailto:jdholmes@iastate.edu)