

## Crop Happenings

August 3, 2009  
Issue 10



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

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**Weather note.** Dr. Elwynn Taylor noted that July, 2009, was the coldest on record since 1891. He also commented that 8 of the 10 coolest years had above trend line yields. Temperatures the remainder of the week should be 83° F – slightly below normal. Little rainfall is expected in central Iowa this week.

**Corn eyespot.** Many farmers and agronomists in the area have noted high levels of corn eyespot. The most serious infestations are in continuous corn. This disease is favored by cool, wet weather. It is very common in the early part of the season, but rarely seen this time of year. There are no economic thresholds for eyespot; however, treatment with a fungicide may be warranted if infection levels are high. See [Eyespot and Gray Leaf Spot Continue to Increase in Iowa](#) for additional information.

**Which fungicide?** There is lots of discussion about the differences between strobilurin and triazole fungicides. Strobilurin fungicides (Headline, Quadris, Folicur) prevent spore germination. Triazole fungicides (Quilt, Stratego) will kill fungi very early in their life cycle before they become established. The residual of the products with a single active ingredient tends to be longer than package mixes.

**Goss's wilt found.** A serious infestation of Goss's wilt has been identified near Boxholm. Scattered minor infestations have been seen in Hamilton, Humboldt, Webster, and Wright County since. See the [ICM Newsletter](#) for more information. Goss's wilt is a bacterial disease therefore fungicides are not effective.

**Soybean aphid update.** Brian Lang, Extension Field Agronomist from Decorah, reports that there's an average of 99 aphids per plant in his research plot near Decorah. The seed treatment plots have fewer aphids. In central Iowa aphid numbers remain low. The field I checked this weekend had 16 aphids per plant. Continue to scout and remember that the economic threshold is 250 aphids per plant throughout the entire field. The economic injury level at today's prices is 650 aphids per plant.

**Bacterial blight in soybeans.** This disease is now common in soybean fields. Key things to watch are yellow halos around brown lesions on leaves. The upper canopy often has a tattered appearance.

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