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News Release
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INSIDE GRUNDY COUNTY
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The storm that occurred on August 9 left a lot of crop damage across Grundy County. As farmers assessed the damage, many have been looking at their options for dealing with this crop. To make important crop decisions, go to the following website: www.extension.iastate.edu/disasterrecovery/info/haildamage.htm for answers.

On this site, farmers will find very helpful information. For example, William Edwards, ISU Extension farm business management specialist, has put together brief articles titled *Crop Insurance Coverage for Hail-damaged Crops* and *Pricing Hail-damaged Silage*. He has also provided an Excel worksheet called *Corn Silage Pricer* to help growers determine the value of the hail damaged crop.

To help assess the damage to corn, publication *Assessing Hail Damage to Corn* NCH 1 is available to help the producer estimate what the yield reduction will be. *Assessing Hail Damage to Soybeans* considers stand loss, defoliation and broken or cut stems (loss of nodes and pods). Different sets of tables are used for the stage of soybean development at the time of the hail event. The numbers from these tables are used in equations to estimate yield loss. The attached key tables and figures give a rough idea of damage done within the reproductive stages. The article *Mid to Late Season Lodging* addresses damage to corn that missed the hail but was damaged by high winds.

This site also provides information on emergency forages. Depending on the spring herbicide program used for corn or soybeans, fields with severe hail damaged crops may be replanted to emergency forage – after the Crop and Hail Insurance Adjusters assess the crop. Small grains can make good emergency forage planted in August. The University of Wisconsin conducted trials using oats, barley, triticale, winter wheat and winter rye. Get a jump on next spring's alfalfa seeding by planting alfalfa in August, preferably by mid-August in northeast Iowa. Once again, double check on the corn or soybean herbicide program used this spring to see if an alfalfa seeding would be allowed. Alfalfa should be seeded alone.

Tips on salvaging a hail damaged crop can be found in the publication *Managing Immature Crops for Grain or Silage* which offers decision-making information for immature corn and soybeans and addresses some of the additional logistical concerns. It

may be useful to producers who have sections of a field with lighter damage and who are deciding to make whole field harvest decisions.

Some additional articles and publications on dealing with storm damaged crops on this website include: *Managing Hail Damaged Alfalfa, Forage Use Options for Wind-Damaged Immature Corn, Salvaging a Damaged Crop for Silage, Nitrate Toxicity Concerns, Should Hail Damaged Crops be Sprayed With a Fungicide?, Further Considerations for Foliar Fungicides on Corn and Soybean, Effects of Foliar Fungicides on Corn Stalk Quality, Making Silage from Hail Damaged Crops, Silo Gas—Nitrate Concerns and Impact of Defoliation on Corn Forage Quality.*

For more information on dealing with a hail damaged crop or assistance accessing this website, contact the Grundy County Extension office at 319-824-6979.