

CROP UPDATE

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Covering the Iowa counties of Cedar, Clinton, Delaware, Des Moines, Dubuque, Henry, Jackson, Lee, Louisa, Muscatine, and Scott.

May 9, 2012

CORN

Spraying Fields with Emerged Corn

Many corn fields were planted April 25 – 27, 2012 did not receive intended soil applied herbicides before the corn began to emerge. In some cases, it was also the intention to apply 100+ units of liquid nitrogen fertilizer with the herbicide. And now emerged weeds are (still?) there too. So now what? Bob Hartzler and John Sawyer address these issues in the article at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2012/0508hartzler.htm>.

Stalk Borers on the Move

According to Growing Degree Day accumulations, base 41, stalk borers are starting to move from grassy areas into nearby corn fields along and south of Highway 34 (Burlington – Mount Pleasant – Fairfield area) and will soon start to move from grass into nearby corn fields north of Highway 34.

Information on scouting and management can be found at the ICM News article at

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2012/0508hodgsonsisson.htm>.

Local Growing Degree Day accumulations are shown at

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/eccrops/stalkborer.html>.

You can get an early “heads up” of the size of potential movement of stalk borers into corn by examining the grass for dead heads; the vast majority of dead heads will have been killed by stalk borers who are outgrowing the

grass plant and moving into nearby corn. The more dead heads you find, the more stalk borers may be poised to move into corn. Tom Hillyer provided the following pictures.



Smooth brome grass head killed by a stalk borer.



Stalk borer hole in the stem of smooth brome grass.



Stalk borer still in the smooth brome grass stem but about ready to head for corn.

HAY

Alfalfa Weevil Winding Down Soon

Alfalfa weevils have been a very spotty pest of alfalfa this year and they will soon start to “wind down” in southern Iowa. Continue to scout alfalfa for this pest and also monitor re-growth. Details can be found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/eccrops/alfalfaweevil.html>.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

**SOUTHEAST IOWA RESEARCH and DEMONSTRATION
FARM, Crawfordsville
SPRING FIELD DAY and 25th Anniversary Celebration
(afternoon) &
SPECIAL SESSION FOR CCAs (morning)
JUNE 21, 2012**

Details are posted at

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/eccrops/meetserc.html>.

**NORTHEAST IOWA RESEARCH and DEMONSTRATION
FARM, Nashua
SPRING FIELD DAY
JUNE 28, 2012, 1 – 4:30 p.m.**

Details are posted at

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/eccrops/meetnerf.html>.

TECHNIQUES TO AVOID SPRAY DRIFT

July 17, 2012

Field Extension Education Laboratory (FEEL) near Boone, IA

Two half-day sessions (morning session repeated in the afternoon) (no cost to participants) will be conducted, focusing on:

- Nozzle selection/use with demonstration on spray table
- Balancing efficacy and drift
- Environmental factors, adjuvants and limitations, field demonstration, etc.

More information and registration will soon be available at

<http://www.aep.iastate.edu/>.

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