

CROP UPDATE

Iowa State University Extension Information for Southeast Iowa

By Jim Fawcett, ISU Extension Field Agronomist

3109 OLD Highway 218 South

Iowa City, IA 52246

319-337-2145

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Weather

It's been another fall with great harvest weather. It's hard to understand where some of these corn yields are coming from with so little summer rain and the excess heat in July. In general corn yields have been surprisingly good, although there are fields with disappointing yields, where the heat, lack of rain, and loss of nitrogen took a toll. Some are reporting the best soybean yields they've ever seen. Some reported yields in the 70s and even 80s in the area that got a good rain in late August. It really makes a difference when there is virtually no disease and no insect problems.

Fall Nitrogen Application

Some have begun to apply anhydrous ammonia. We've had several years now with high nitrogen losses due to the wet spring conditions. Nitrogen losses can be reduced by putting most of the nitrogen on close to the time that the corn requires it. If nitrogen is fall applied, waiting as long as possible, or at least until the soil temperature is below 50F and falling can help to minimize the loss. Soil temperatures are now around 50 or under in most of the state. Soil temperatures can be found at <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/NPKnowledge/soiltemphistory.html>.

There are some concerns that the soil is so dry that there may not be enough moisture to hold the anhydrous. Today's rains may calm those fears, although this was not likely a problem. Even when plants have removed all of the moisture they can from the soil, there is still moisture there. A bigger concern is whether the soil is cloddy and so cannot get a good seal, or if it is too wet and doesn't seal allowing the gas to escape as it is being put on. Your nose will know if ammonia is escaping. To see more discussion on this see John Sawyer's article at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2011/1028sawyer.htm>

VARIETY TRIALS

The link to most upper Midwest states University Yield Trials are available at the University Crop Testing Alliance (UCTA) at: <http://www.ucta.org/>

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Integrated Crop Management Conference – Ames November 30-December 1

**Over 30 Different Seminars and Workshops to Choose From
More Information & Registration Information Available at
<http://www.aep.iastate.edu/icm/homepage.html>**

Ag Chemical Dealer Update December 9 – Iowa City (Highlander)

Registration Opens 8:15 a.m.
Program 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- Cropping Season in Review— Virgil Schmitt, Field Agronomist, ISU Extension
 - Strategy for Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Program—Dean Lemke, IDALS
 - Managing Goss's Wilt in 2012—Alison Robertson, ISU Extension
 - Sulfur and Zinc Recommendations for Iowa—John Sawyer, ISU Extension
 - Corn Rootworm Resistance and Management—Erin Hodgson, ISU Extension
 - Glyphosate Resistance Now; Management in the Future—Mike Owen, ISU Extension
- 5 CCA Credits (3 PM; 1 NM; 1 S&W)

Registration information will be posted soon at <http://www.aep.iastate.edu/acu/iacity.html>.

Crop Advantage Series Conference January 26 – Iowa City (Highlander) (Conference has been moved from Kirkwood CC in Cedar Rapids to Iowa City)

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