Nitrogen Concerns
We have not been excessively wet in NC Iowa like we were in the spring of 2014, yet I have had several calls with concerns about nitrogen. The exception to this is our rains have been very spotty with some folks getting a lot of rain at one time and others receiving very little. Dr. John Sawyer recently posted this blog Precipitation and Nitrogen This Spring, that helps us understand how springtime precipitation amounts can be used for evaluating the addition of N at a rate greater than the Maximum Return to N suggested by the Corn Nitrogen Rate Calculator. The following table shows rainfall (inches) from April 1 through June 13 (Iowa Mesonet) The first column shows rainfall amounts for this time period, the second column is the average as calculated from 1951 to 2015, and the third is the departure from the average. So you can see we are still a little behind average.

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<th>Rainfall (inches)</th>
<th>1951-2015 Average</th>
<th>Departure from Average</th>
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Serving Calhoun, Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hamilton, Hardin, Humboldt, Webster, Worth and Wright Counties.
Insects
Stalk borers are on the move in NC Iowa. Last week after walking through a few ditches to get to fields I found stalk borers on my jeans. Be on the look out around grassy areas such as road ditches and waterways and also areas with heavy giant ragweed infestations. Treatment, if warranted, must happen while they are migrating and is ineffective once they have infested corn. See this article for economic threshold for treatment.  *Stalk borers Begin Migration in Corn.*

Corn rootworm egg hatch is happening now. See this article by Erin Hodgson *Corn rootworm egg hatch peaking around Iowa.* Be prepared to scout for root injury approximately 3-4 weeks after peak hatch.

Soybean aphids have been found at low levels at the NE Research Farm near Nashua and higher levels (not yet threshold) in Minnesota. Begin scouting now.

And finally, I have received two reports of producers treating for true armyworms in fields that had a cereal rye cover crop.
Events


ISU Northern Research Farm
Summer Field Day

Thursday, June 23, 2016
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
North Iowa Research Farm, 310 S. Main St., Kanawha

Registration begins at 9:00, program from 9:30—noon with lunch to follow.

Northern Iowa Research Farm (NIRF) Season Review
Matthew Schnabel, Northern Iowa Research Farm superintendent
Kari Nicolle, Northern Iowa Research Farm ag specialist

Soil Health
Mahdi Al-Kaisi, ISU professor, extension soil management specialist

Nitrogen Management
John Sawyer, ISU professor, extension soil fertility & nutrient management specialist

Corn & Soybean Disease
Alison Robertson, ISU associate professor, extension plant pathology & microbiology specialist

Current Issues in Crop Production
Paul Kassel & Angie Rieck-Hinz, ISU Extension and Outreach field agronomists

No advanced pre-registration required.
Meeting open to all association members and all interested persons.

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