Integrated Agronomics

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http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ag/newsletters-integrated-agronomics

Crop update (NASS)

Field Work and Crop Progress as of May 18, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>NW</th>
<th>NC</th>
<th>NE</th>
<th>WC</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>SW</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
<th>5-yr Avg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oats planted</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats emerged</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn planted</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn emerged</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybeans planted</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Much of what has been planted went into cold soils, or the soils became cold shortly after, so we need to watch the crop for injury as it emerges and determine whether replanting is necessary. Based on what I have seen so far, I don’t think much replanting will be necessary, but we need to keep checking to be sure.

Tips for remaining planting

Corn - Consider:
- Skipping preplant Nitrogen (N).
- Continue to limit your speed. Whereas earlier 5 mph was preferable, with 5.5 being the maximum suggested speed, you may want to consider 5.5 now, with 6 being the maximum. Remember, speed hurts 3 ways. The faster you plant: 1) the less accurate the drop; more doubles/skips 2) the more kernel roll; less even spacing 3) the more row unit bounce; less even planting depth; less even emergence. These symptoms really show up above 6.0 mph.
- When we get to May 25, if you haven’t completed planting your corn, consider switching your hybrids to about 5 days shorter relative maturity.
- Once the corn is planted, come back in with any needed N.

When choosing N rate, remember, you want to increase economic return, not simply yield. The N-Rate Calculator http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/soilfertility/nrate.aspx helps you determine that rate. This is a very helpful tool, because with N rate, there is a higher rate of return per pound of N initially, with much lower rates of return at higher N application rates. Once you reach the optimum economic rate, any additional pounds of N will cost more than they return in additional yield.

Soybean - As we move past May 25 and especially if you are still planting in June, consider:
- Increasing the planting population
- Decreasing row spacing to 15” or less. For instance, if you have been planting with a 30” row spacing planter, consider planting each field twice, by going cross row, diagonal or parallel to first planting (each pass at half rate). Alternatively, consider using a drill.
- Stay with your same maturity group (MG) for now. When we get to June 20, growers in northern and central Iowa should switch to a shorter MG. Shorten by 0.5 to 1.0.

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Replant soybeans - Often the best decision when faced with poor soybean stands is to do nothing. Soybeans have a tremendous ability to compensate for reduced stands. Up until mid-June, keep a stand of 70,000. After that a stand of even 50,000-60,000 that time of year is worth keeping. There may be some yield loss, but the yield loss from late planting will probably be greater. Hopefully no-one in our area will face that.

Corn Seedling Diseases - Alison Robertson, ISU Extension Plant Pathologist (alisonr@iastate.edu), is studying corn seed and seedling diseases. If you encounter fields with seedling disease problems, please contact Alison or me. Samples of diseased material will greatly help the study, and the study will provide valuable information for future management decisions.

Upcoming Events

Beginning Farmer meetings are being held around Iowa this May and June (see last issue of Integrated Agronomics). You may want to browse the ISU Extension Beginning Farmer Center: [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/bfc/](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/bfc/)

Iowa Learning Farms and partners will host a “Cover Crops for Forage and Grazing” field day on Thursday, June 5, at the farm of Randy Seinknecht, Gladbrook, Iowa from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public; lunch provided. If you plan on attending, please RSVP by calling 641-484-2702 by June 2.

Early-season Crop Management Clinic 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 11, 2014, Boone, IA Details: [http://www.aep.iastate.edu/feel/early](http://www.aep.iastate.edu/feel/early)

Cover Crop Workshop 9:00 a.m., Thursday, June 12, 2014, Boone, IA Details: [http://www.aep.iastate.edu/feel/cover](http://www.aep.iastate.edu/feel/cover)

The CCA Exam registration is open until June 20


Weed Science Field Day 8:30 a.m., Thursday, June 26, 2014, Ames, IA Further details will be forthcoming.