

CROP NOTES for October 31, 2019 – Many Upcoming Events

Iowa State University Extension Information for Northeast Iowa
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Past issues of Crop Notes are posted at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/page/crop-notes-brian-lang>

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WEATHER

GRAIN STORAGE

Cooling Grain Impacts on Grain Quality and Shelf-Life

Due to the later planting and current weather conditions, crops are drying slower in the field. With harvested corn at higher moistures, cold grain temperatures are the best protection against spoilage at this point. The allowable storage time (shelf life) of corn nearly doubles with a reduction in grain temperature from 50F to 40F. Read the rest of this Blog at: <https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/blog/charles-r-hurburgh/cooling-grain-impacts-grain-quality-and-shelf-life>

Blog titled "Cool Stored Grain Now"

This article will review some tips and rules of thumb for cooling and storing grain through the winter.

<https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/blog/kristina-tebockhorst-shawn-shouse/cool-stored-grain-now>

SOIL FERTILITY

Soil Sampling and Soil Test Interpretation

Routine soil testing is an excellent investment to know where to put your inputs. Be sure to fertilize the low testing soils, but not the high testing soils. The idea of just cutting back on fertilizer across the whole farm regardless of soil test levels is not a good idea. Most farmers have ag suppliers providing this task for them... collect soil samples, send to a lab, interpret the results.

Common mistakes:

1. Not collecting enough soil cores per soil sample. Good representation of the site is critical for reliable results. Take a minimum of 12 corers per sample, preferably 15, and in some cases as many as 20 cores per sample is recommended. This includes soil sampling with grid sampling programs. For an explanation, go to ISU Extension publication CROP 3108, "Take a Good Soil Sample to Help Make Good Fertilization Decisions" <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/3915>
2. Don't assume the Soil Testing Lab recommendations are based on maximum economic return to fertilizer costs. Many lab recommendations are higher than what ISU Extension research shows to be best economic return. ISU Extension provides a publication to help interpret soil test results. Get publication PM 1688, "A General Guide for Crop Nutrient and Limestone Recommendations in Iowa". In its most simplest form, when P and K soil test levels fall within the "optimum range", fertilizer for estimated crop removal. Calculate crop removal from Table 2, page 4 or PM 1688. A history of combine yield monitor data would be helpful. If soil test levels are in the "low range", apply a little more than crop removal to slowly build back over time to the "optimum range". If soil test levels are in the "high range" skip the fertilizer for a year. ISU's levels of "low, optimum, high" defined in PM 1688 may not be the same as soil test levels used by other labs, but as long as you have the soil testing lab's test results, you can use their ppm P and ppm K numbers with the ISU tables and soil test levels from PM 1688 <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/5232>

For details on the economics of P, K and lime applications to corn and soybean production, please read two of Dr. Antonio Mallarino's submissions in last years ICM Conference proceedings. The proceedings is available for free download at: <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/15488>

Antonio's submissions are:

1. Corn and soybean grain yield, phosphorus and potassium removal, and soil-test trend responses to long-term fertilization strategies, pages 83-90
2. Liming research update and application strategies with low crop prices, pages 91-100.

VARIETY TRIALS

Iowa Crop Improvement Corn and Soybeans Variety Trials

Go to: <http://www.croptesting.iastate.edu/>

Trials at Nashua include:

- Full season corn yields range 214.1 bu/ac at 19.9% moisture to 261.7 bu/ac at 23.8 % moisture

- Early season corn yields range 208.2 bu/ac at 19.4% moisture to 251.4 bu/ac at 22.1% moisture
- Full season soybean yields range 49.9 to 65.3 bu/ac
- Early season soybeans yields range 50.8 to 63.9 bu/ac

Neighboring state variety trials:

Minnesota, soybean trials at Rochester ranging 59.9 to 73.6 bu/ac: <https://blog-crop-news.extension.umn.edu/2019/10/2019-u-of-m-se-minnesota-regional.html>

Illinois: <http://vt.cropsci.illinois.edu/> Only wheat trials available at this time.

South Dakota:

- Corn: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/corn-hybrid-trial-results>
- Soybean: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/soybean-variety-trial-results>
- Oat: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/oat-variety-trial-results>
- Wheat: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/wheat-variety-trial-results>

Wisconsin: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/fieldcroppathology/university-of-wisconsin-variety-trials/> Only wheat trials available at this time.

EVENTS

Nov. 5-6, 49th Annual North Central Extension – Industry Soil Fertility Conference, Des Moines

Learn more about current soil fertility issues and research being conducted at universities across the North Central United States. The conference will include invited presentations from university and industry leaders, research reports from university soil fertility researchers, and posters outlining research by graduate students at universities across the North Central region. For all information about the conference, including registration and hotel arrangements, go to: <https://northcentralfertility.com/>

Nov. 5-7, Artificial Insemination Training, Calmar

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Iowa's Dairy Center, Calmar. This is a 3-day hands-on class for those who wish to artificially inseminate their own cattle or gain experience to work for others. The class will cover all aspects of bovine reproduction, from anatomy and hormones to heat detection. Students have actual insemination practice on cattle at Iowa's Dairy Center. The minimum age requirement for this class is 16. The class is taught by Select Sires. Details provided at: <http://iowadairycenter.com/farmers/artificial-insemination-courses.php>

Nov. 7, Cover Crop and Wetland Field Day, Nashua

12:00 to 2:00 PM at the Borlaug Learning Center, Northeast ISU Research Farm, Nashua. The event is free, open to the entire family and includes a complimentary meal. Details about the program are in the following news release: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/nashua-cover-crop-and-wetland-field-day-nov-7>

Nov. 8, Fontana Park Forestry Field Day, Hazleton

9:00 AM to Noon. Dress for the weather. Field Day Flyer at:

https://naturalresources.extension.iastate.edu/files/page/files/fontana_field_day_flyer_2019.pdf

Program includes tree ID, forest improvement practices, emerald ash borer update, tree planting considerations, forest products, tornado forestry follow-up, history of Fontana Park. Direct questions to Alex Hoffman at 563-608-0385, alex.hoffman@dnr.iowa.gov

Nov. 8, Foreign Animal Disease Preparation and Prevention, Dyersville

IDALS and ISU are hosting a free workshop discussing how dairies can prepare and prevent a foreign animal disease outbreak. The workshop will run from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM at the Country Junction, 913 15th Ave SE, Dyersville, IA. Dairy producers, processors, veterinarians and emergency responders are invited to attend the discussion, including what to expect and how to prepare in the case of foot-and-mouth disease. Attendees are encouraged to register [online](#), by emailing fad@iowaagriculture.gov or by calling 515-281-5303. "Our first goal is to prevent a foreign animal disease from entering the U.S. and this workshop is one of many steps the Department has taken to prepare," said Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig. "Iowa's economy depends on livestock production and it is important that we continue to prevent and prepare against a foreign animal disease, like foot-and-mouth." A disease outbreak would impact Iowa's producers and businesses. Secretary

Naig is committed to working with state leaders and those involved in livestock production to prepare for any foreign animal disease outbreak. Foot-and-mouth disease is a highly contagious viral disease. The virus causes illness in cows, pigs, sheep, goats, deer and other animals with divided hooves. Foot-and-mouth disease is not a public health or food safety threat. Foot-and-mouth disease continues to be a worldwide threat but has not been detected in the U.S. since 1929. There is a vaccine available that could be used to help slow the spread of a foot-and-mouth outbreak or protect specific animals. In the event of an outbreak, USDA would evaluate the size, scope and species involved, as well as the availability of the vaccine, to determine if vaccinations are appropriate, according to USDA APHIS.

[Nov. 10, Online Crop Marketing Course, 1st of 14 sessions](#)

14 sessions developed with input by Chad Hart, ISU associate professor in economics and extension grain markets specialist; Steve Johnson, ISU Extension farm management specialist; and Ed Kordick, farmer education program manager with Iowa Farm Bureau. The sessions allow producers to explore futures price and basis movements, marketing tools and grain contracts that can help create a successful marketing plan. The course opens Nov. 10, and users can progress through the course at their own convenience. The registration cost is \$200 and can be done online at <https://www.agonline.iastate.edu/noncredit/crop-marketing> More information about the program is at: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/online-crop-marketing-course-will-launch-nov-10>

[Nov. & Dec., Farm Bill Programs, many locations across Iowa](#)

Free program but preregistration required at least 48 hours in advance. Topics include: Rules and regulations; The ARC or PLC decision; Farm stress management. Speakers from ISU Extension and USDA-FSA. To register, either call your county office or go to www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/meetings.html

- Nov. 13, 6:00 PM, Clayton Co., Keystone AEA, Elkader, 563-245-1451
- Nov. 14, 9:00 AM, Delaware Co., Fairgrounds Community Center, 563-927-4201
- Nov. 15, 1:00 PM, Bremer Co., Waverly Civic Center, 319-882-4275
- Nov. 21, 9:00 AM, Floyd/Mitchell Co., Charles City Fairgrounds YEC, 641-228-1453
- Dec. 4, 1:00 PM, Dubuque Co., Epworth City Hall, 563-583-6496
- Dec. 5, 1:00 PM, Buchanan Co., Heartland Acres Event Center, 319-334-7161
- Dec. 9, 1:00 PM, Chickasaw Co., New Hampton Community Center, 641-394-2174
- Dec. 11, 1:00 PM, Winneshiek/Allamakee Co., Winneshiek Co. Fairgrounds, Decorah, 563-382-2949
- Dec. 17, 9:00 AM, Howard Co., Fairgrounds, Featherlite Center, Cresco, 563-547-3001
- Dec. 18, 1:00 PM, Fayette Co., Opera House, Fayette, 563-425-3331

Other locations, dates and times are available at: www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/meetings.html

[Nov. & Dec., Pro-Ag Outlook and Management Seminars, 13 locations across Iowa](#)

Each three-hour seminar includes information on grain price outlook and global factors to watch, livestock prices and margins, as well as farmland operating margins, outlook and trends. Pre-registration is requested two days prior to the date of the event. Registration fee varies by location. Topics include: Crop Market Price Outlook, Margins & Risk Management Strategies by Dr. Chad Hart, Extension Grain Marketing Specialist; U.S. & China Trade Update by Dr. Wendong Zhang, Extension Economist; Critical Role of Land Values and Interest Rates in the Stabilization of the Agricultural Sector by Dr. Alejandro Plastina, Extension Economist; and Livestock Market Price Outlook, Margins & Risk Management Strategies by Dr. Lee Schulz, Extension Livestock Economist. For more information, go to: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/proag.html>

Partial list of dates and locations:

- Nov. 6, 9:00 AM, Waterloo, Hawkeye College, Tama Hall, 319-234-6811
- Nov. 13, 4:00 PM, Fort Dodge, Webster Co. Extension Office, 515-576-2119
- Nov. 20, 1:00 PM, Mason City, NIACC Campus, 641-423-0844
- Nov. 22, 9:00 AM, Cresco, Featherlite Center, Fairgrounds, 563-547-3001
- Dec. 6, 12:30 PM, Iowa City, Johnson Co. Extension Office, 319-337-2145

Nov. 24-25, Iowa Organic Conference, Iowa City

The keynote speaker is Alex Heilman, from Mercaris, to address “Profitability of Organic: Now and Into the Future”. All conference details, agenda, exhibitors, registration, etc., is at:

<https://register.extension.iastate.edu/iowaorganic>

Nov. 25-26, Iowa Forage and Grassland Council Annual Conference, Des Moines

Details provided at: <https://iowaforage.org/conference/>

Cover crops on day 1 with bus tour and sessions. Many other topics on day 2.

Dec. 4, Beef Nutrition Research Showcase, Ames

Meeting starts at 1:30 PM with an optional beef nutrition farm tour at 12:00 PM, and dinner at 5:30 PM. The program and meal are free thanks to sponsor Merck Animal Health. Topics include: Growth promoting technologies and their effect on cattle mineral status; Precision livestock farming tools for the feedlot; Beef cattle market situation and outlook; Transit stress in receiving calves; Finishing high quality beef. Please RSVP by Nov. 27 by contacting Allison VanDerWal, 507-822-5921, avand@iastate.edu The showcase will be held at the Hansen Ag Student Learning Center, 2508 Mortensen Road in Ames. The optional tour at 12:00 PM is at the Iowa State Beef Nutrition Farm at 3405 North Dakota Ave. See the showcase flyer at:

<http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/events/ResearchShowcaseFlyer2019.pdf>

Dec. 4-5, Integrated Crop Management Conference, Ames

The ISU Integrated Crop Management Conference is Iowa's premier crop production education event. No other program brings together the diverse range of topics, slate of expert presenters and results of the latest University research. Drawing nearly 1,000 of the top crop production professionals from across Iowa and the Midwest together for two days. **Don't miss early registration on this program. It usually fills up... limited capacity just shy of 1,000.** All of the program details provided at: <http://www.aep.iastate.edu/icm/>

FYI, here's some of the topics from guest speakers for this program:

- Peter Kovács, South Dakota State University, will discuss agronomic implications of new planter technologies.
- Scott Wells, University of Minnesota, will present on the evolving use of cover crop interseeding.
- Charles Lynch of the University of Iowa will share information on glyphosate and cancer and the findings of the Agricultural Health Study.
- Anita Dille, Kansas State University, will review integrating cover crops for weed suppression in corn-soybean systems.
- Justin McMechan, University of Nebraska, will discuss the ecology and management of soybean gall midge.
- Damon Smith, University of Wisconsin, will share information on smartphone-based apps used to predict and manage plant diseases.
- Newell Kitchen, from the USDA-ARS, will take a look at the history, and future, of corn nitrogen recommendations.
- Robert Mullen, with Nutrien, will discuss the global nature of the fertilizer industry and how the changing landscape is affecting US farmers.

Dec. 13, Midwest Dairy & Beef Day, Calmar

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Iowa's Dairy Center, Calmar. ISU Extension, the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation and NICC will offer the annual Midwest Dairy & Beef Day. This year's event will discuss opportunities and challenges to adding value to dairy calves and dairy beef cross calves. Producers will also share their experiences from feeding to breeding during a panel discussion. Midwest Dairy & Beef Day is open to all beef producers, dairy producers, students and industry persons. This program is generously supported by local businesses and is free of charge for participants. Please register by Dec. 5 to reserve your seat.

<http://iowadairycenter.com/farmers/midwest-dairy-day.php>

Dec. 17 & 18, Ag Chemical Dealer Updates, Coralville and Ames locations, respectively

Provide the latest crop production recommendations, news and information directly from ISU specialists. Review the positives and negatives of the 2019 growing season and prepare seed, chemical and fertilizer

dealers, crop consultants, farm managers and agronomists for the challenges of 2020. For details about the program and each location, go to: <http://www.aep.iastate.edu/acu/>

Commercial Pesticide Applicator Re-certification Continuing Instruction Courses

Details available at: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/psep/ComAp.html>

- Nov. 13, 9:00 AM, Ornamental and Turf Applicators, 3O, 3T, 3OT, 10
- Nov. 19, 9:00 AM, Fumigation 7C, 10
- Nov. 20, 9:00 AM, Commercial Ag Weed, Insect, and Disease, 1A, 1B, 1C, 10
- Dec. 4, 9:00 AM, Pest Control Operators, 7A, 7B, 8, 10
- Greenhouse, 3G, 3O, 10, Taped session, schedule a time.

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