CROP NOTES for May 22, 2015
Past issues of Crop Notes are posted at:
http://www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/page/crop-notes-brian-lang

Iowa State University Extension Information for Northeast Iowa
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INSECT UPDATE

Armyworm - Reported
While moth flight activity reports have been low, I received a report yesterday afternoon of Armyworm activity in Buchanan County. The event was in corn following a winter rye cover crop. This seems just a bit early in May for this report, but the Armyworm were still very small. Armyworms typically do not feed in the day time (unless heavily overcast skies), usually spending the daytime in the plant whorl or under crop residue or soil clods. Its easiest to scout for this insect very early in the morning when many are still likely to be feeding. As mentioned before, higher probability feeding sites are:
1) corn following a winter cereal cover crop
2) corn following CRP or grass pasture
3) small grain fields.
Expect to continue to scout for this insect through June.
Attached is a Fact Sheet with photos and additional information on Armyworm.

Black Cutworm – Repeat of Cutting Reported in Yesterday’s Crop Notes
While the moth trap catches continue to be very low across Iowa, I just had a report near Waucoma of over-threshold cutting damage in a no-till corn following soybeans. The prediction map for cutting to begin around May 29 is late. Although in fairness to the article, in did mention a significant catch 2 weeks earlier in Wright county suggesting cutting to begin May 18: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2015/0514Sisson.htm The article also covers basic identification, scouting and threshold information. As you scout fields for other reasons (plant population, uniform emergence, weed pressure, etc.), realize that higher probability problem fields and locations within fields for BCW are:
1) areas that had heavier infestations of low growing perennial and winter annual broadleaf weeds during moth flights
2) fields with heavy soybean residue
3) low lying areas
4) fields with later corn plantings
Continue to scout for this insect through V5 stage corn.
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