TABLE OF CONTENTS
AUGUST 29 CROP NOTES – Still apply for:
  •  Cover crop establishment
  •  Alfalfa fall harvest
  •  Pasture Weed Management

CORN
  •  Growth and Development
  •  Wet Field Conditions Delaying Corn Silage Harvest
  •  Corn Stalk Rot and Harvest

SOYBEANS
  •  Growth and Development

FARM MANAGEMENT
  •  Farmer Aid Payments

WINTER WHEAT
  •  Approaching Timely Planting Dates

ALFALFA
  •  Another Herbicide Option Available

GRAZING A RYE COVER CROP
  •  New Publications from the Iowa Beef Center

EVENTS
  •  Sept. 20-21, Agricultural Law Seminar & Farm Tax Workshop, Ames
  •  Oct. 24, The 32nd Annual Tri-State Agricultural Lender’s Seminar, Dubuque
  •  Oct. 30, Pasture-Walk, Vance & Olaf Haugen Farm, Canton, MN
  •  Nov. 14-15, North Central Extension-Industry Soil Fertility Conference, Des Moines

AUGUST 29 CROP NOTES – information on the following still applies:
  •  Cover crop establishment
  •  Alfalfa fall harvest
  •  Pasture Weed Management

For this information, check your last Crop Notes email or go to:
https://www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/sites/www.extension.iastate.edu/files/winneshiek/CropNotes/CR
OPNOTESAugust292018.pdf

CORN
Growth and Development
For a map of current GDD, go to: http://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/GIS/apps/coop/gsplot.phtml  Current GDD from May 1 in northeast Iowa is about 2,450 along Hwy 9 and 2,600 along Hwy 20. That ranges from ½ milk line to black layer for full season corn planted in early May.
**Corn growth & development reproductive stages of a full season hybrid for northeast Iowa.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Description of stage</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Time to next stage</th>
<th>GDD to next stage</th>
<th>Accumulated GDD from May 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R5</td>
<td>Dent</td>
<td>Hardening starch causes a depression (dent) in butt end of kernel. The kernel hardens from butt to tip causing a visual horizontal “milk line” on the kernel face the progressively moves from the butt end to the tip end of the kernel.</td>
<td>~ 9 days</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>2,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¼ milk line</td>
<td>Often begin silage harvest for bunkers. Whole plant is about 70% moisture. 65% DM in kernel.</td>
<td></td>
<td>~ 10 days</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ milk line</td>
<td>Often a target for silage harvest for upright stave silos. Whole plant is about 65% moisture. 90% DM in kernel.</td>
<td></td>
<td>~ 10 days</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¾ milk line</td>
<td>97% DM in kernel. Grain is about 37% moisture</td>
<td>~ 14 day</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2,600 (R6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R6</td>
<td>Physiological maturity (black layer)</td>
<td>100% DM in kernel. Grain is about 35% moisture.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Wet Field Conditions Delaying Corn Silage Harvest**

Silage harvest was just getting underway before 6-8 inches of rain fell across the region. Thus, some of the crop may get a bit drier than intended for harvest. The approach is the same. Pay attention to:

1. Crop moisture. If a little drier than intended, adjust chop length for improved packing and included an appropriate silage additive to aid fermentation.
2. Chop length and kernel processing.
3. Inoculants
4. Packing
5. Sealing and covering

These five steps are described in Dr. Ramírez article at: [https://www.extension.iastate.edu/dairyteam/files/page/files/5%20Key%20points%20to%20make%20high%20quality%20corn%20silage.pdf](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/dairyteam/files/page/files/5%20Key%20points%20to%20make%20high%20quality%20corn%20silage.pdf)

**Corn Stalk Rot and Harvest**

While the warm season has provided faster than normal growth and development, and timely maturation of the crop, the wet weather throughout the season enhances the chance for stalk rot development in fall. As corn fields approach maturity (black layer, R6 stage), they should be scouted for stalk rot. If a field has about 15% stalk rot or more, the risk of significant lodging is high enough to justify harvesting the field on the early side.

So at initial R6 stage, test stalk firmness by pinching the lower internodes with thumb and forefinger. Healthy stalks are firm and cannot be compressed. If a stalk can be compressed or feels soft, it is rotted and is a good candidate for lodging. Randomly check about 100 plants per field for a good assessment of conditions.

**SOYBEANS**

**Growth and Development**

Many fields starting to turn color (late R6 stage), to some fields reaching maturity (R8).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Description of stage</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Time to next stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R6</td>
<td>Pods contain green seeds that fill the pod to capacity at one of the four uppermost nodes on the main stem with a fully developed leaf.</td>
<td>Period of rapid, steady seed dry weight accumulation continues until R6.5 stage. Rapid leaf yellowing begins shortly after R6 (lower canopy spreading upward). R6.5 is good timing</td>
<td>About 18 days to R7 stage, physiological maturity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
for aerial cover crop seeding, applying seed to the ground before extensive leaf drop occurs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>One pod on the main stem has reached a mature color (tan or brown).</th>
<th>Beginning maturity. Very little yield loss (&lt;2%) if a killing frost occurs at this stage.</th>
<th>About 9 days to R8.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R7</td>
<td>95% of pods have reached a mature color.</td>
<td>Full maturity.</td>
<td>About a week to &lt;15% moisture.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FARM MANAGEMENT**

**Farmer Aid Payments**

I am sure you are finding this information elsewhere with more to come, but just to be sure you have it, here is the article from Sept. 5 ISA NEWS on the recently announced USDA program. Go to:

https://www.iasoybeans.com/news/articles/just-the-facts-details-behind-farmer-aid-payments/?_cldee=YmpsYW5nQGlhc3RhdGUuZWR1&recipientid=contact-bcc2ca0a6e81e51180e23863bb351f00-5c1779963fca4e428f3f80eb8c86951&esid=0e11f6d1-0eb2-e811-813ae0071b6a12c1

**WINTER WHEAT**

**Approaching Timely Planting Dates**

For grain production, the target seeding dates for winter wheat in northeast Iowa starts after mid-September. Plant after the Hessian fly free date; an insect pest that can be an issue with winter wheat grain production if planted too early. Dates across Iowa are included in the following article:

https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/cropnews/2012/08/fly-free-date-hessian-fly. This is not an issue with wheat used as a cover crop. Other tips on winter wheat establishment are provided in the following article from the University of Wisconsin titled **The Top 8 Recommendations for Winter Wheat Establishment:**


**ALFALFA**

**Another Herbicide Option Available**

Warrant has a label to be used postemergence in newly seeded or established stands of alfalfa to provide preemergence control or reduced competition of the select annual grass and small seeded broadleaf weeds. Of course it is not labeled to control weeds already emerged at the time of application. Here is a copy of the label:

http://www.cdms.net/ldat/ld9KA000.pdf

**GRAZING A RYE COVER CROP**

**New Publications from the Iowa Beef Center**

Cereal rye (winter rye) is a common feed used in cow-calf production, extending the grazing season, providing early spring forage or as an emergency area for spring calving during inclement weather. Here’s two new publications providing best management practices for producers.

1. **Grazing Opportunities with Cereal Rye:** [https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/15454](https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/15454)
2. **Managing Cattle Health Issues When Grazing Cover Crops:**
   [https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/15455](https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/15455)
3. Also a new publication on *Fly Control in Ruminants*, whether on pasture or in confinement:
   [https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/15453](https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/15453)

**EVENTS**

**Sept. 20-21, Agricultural Law Seminar & Farm Tax Workshop, Ames**

The Agricultural Law Seminar, co-sponsored with Iowa Farm Bureau and the Agricultural Law Section of the Iowa Bar Association, will be featured the first day of the series. This session will cover topics such as new water quality legislation, an update on ag nuisance law, avoiding farm probate problems, Iowa’s new health plan options, a current look at checkoff programs, farm bill update, building conservation provisions into lease
agreements, Iowa’s new partition law, a review of agricultural law cases and statutes from the past year, and an ethics session geared for the rural attorney. Day two of the seminar series is CALT’s Farm Tax Workshop, covering key changes made by tax reform, including the 199A deduction, business entity issues, the sale of business property and form 4797, depreciation, hedging and speculation, involuntary conversions, energy easement payments, 199A and agricultural cooperatives, farm loss deductions, and ethics for the tax professional. **Registration is open…** Participants can attend the Agricultural Law Seminar, the Farm Tax Workshop, or both programs. Registration for the series is available at: [http://bit.ly/2018septemberseminars](http://bit.ly/2018septemberseminars). Continuing education credit for this seminar is available for attorneys, certified public accountants, enrolled agents, public accountants, tax practitioners, annual filing season program practitioners, and insurance and real estate professionals. September seminar materials will also be made available for purchase if attendance is not possible.

**Oct. 24, The 32rd Annual Tri-State Agricultural Lender’s Seminar, Dubuque**
9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at the Best Western Plus, 3100 Dodge Street, Dubuque. Registration at 9:00. Program agenda includes: 9:30 Dairy Marketing and Risk Management Update (Dr. Robert Cropp, Dairy Marketing Specialist, UW Professor Emeritus); 10:15 The Farm Bill and Implications for Lenders (Dr. Joe Outlaw, Professor and Extension Economist, Co-Director, Ag and Food Policy, Texas A&M University); 11:10 Understanding Farm Stress and How to Help (Dr. John Shutiske, Extension Farm Safety Specialist, UW-Extension); 12:50 Ag Decision Maker—A Useful Tool (Ann Johanns, Extension Program Specialist, ISU Extension); 1:30 Land, Grain & Livestock—Marketing and Risk Management (Dr. Chad Hart, Grain Marketing Specialist, ISU Extension). For more information, see the attached document. The cost of the program is $100. Please register with Dubuque County Extension at 563-583-6496 or email lklatt@iastate.edu or tranel@iastate.edu for registration information. Directions: The Best Western Plus, 3100 Dodge Street, is right off Highway 20 on the west side of Dubuque between Theisen’s and Cedar Cross Road.

**Oct. 30, Pasture-Walk, Vance & Olaf Haugen Farm, Canton, MN**
10:30 AM start at 12620 Deer Rd., Canton, MN. Discuss late fall/early winter paddock planning for dairy grazing. Kura Clover production for seed. Guest speaker is Bonnie Haugen of DGA on “How the importance of soil health for pastures affects feeding our cows, and consequently our profitability. Improving soil health ideas.” Directions from Decorah IA, take Hwy 52 north about 17 miles to the intersection of Hwy 44 & 52, go through the intersection onto Dove Rd., go 0.5 mile to right on Deer Rd. Go 1.5 miles to farm on east side of road. Fire # 12620. Any questions, please call the Haugen’s at 507-459-3264.

**Nov. 14-15, North Central Extension-Industry Soil Fertility Conference, Des Moines**
Intended for university soil fertility and crop production specialists, industry agronomists, crop advisers, and agency personnel. The goal of the conference is to facilitate sharing of new soil fertility and nutrient management research information and fertilizer industry developments. Presentations highlight ongoing soil fertility research at universities in the North Central region (IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, ON, PA, SD, and WI). For more information, go to: [https://conference.ipni.net/conference/ncsfc2018](https://conference.ipni.net/conference/ncsfc2018)

**Oct.-Dec., Commercial Pesticide Applicator CEU Programs**
These programs are offered at most county extension offices. Contact the local extension office to reserve a space. Registration forms will not be available until mid-September. [https://www.extension.iastate.edu/psep/ComAp.html](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/psep/ComAp.html)

- Oct. 17, Categories 2 (Forest Pest), 5 (Aquatic Pest), 6 (Right-of-Way), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)
- Oct 25, Categories 7D (Community Insect Management), 8 (Public Health Pest), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)
- Nov. 2, Categories 3G (Greenhouse Pest Control), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)
- Nov. 7, Categories: 3O (Ornamental Pest), 3T (Turf Pest), 3OT (Ornamental and Turf Pest), and 10 (Research and Demonstration)
- Nov. 13, Private and Commercial, Categories: 7C (Fumigation), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)
Nov. 14, Categories 1A (Ag Weed), 1B (Ag Insect), 1C (Ag Disease), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)

Dec. 5, Categories 7A (General & Household Pest), 7B (Termite Control), 8 (Public Health Control), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach does not discriminate on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or status as a U.S. veteran. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies may be directed to Ross Wilburn, Diversity Officer, 2150 Beardshear Hall, 515 Morrill Road, Ames, Iowa 50011, 515-294-1482, wilburn@iastate.edu.

Brian Lang
Iowa State University Extension Agronomist
325 Washington St., Suite B, Decorah, IA 52101
Office 563-382-2949; Cell 563-387-7058; Fax 563-382-2940
https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/