Diseases and Insects

Northern Corn Leaf Blight
I have spent the better part of the last week working with farmers to evaluate their corn fields for Northern Corn Leaf Blight. While the levels of NCLB have been very low in the fields I have visited so far, I can't stress enough the importance of walking fields and not windshield scouting from the road. Your primary goal is to scout fields that are planted with susceptible hybrids. If the disease is present on 50% of the plants in the field (one or more lesions per plant) at tasseling, a fungicide application may be necessary to protect yield. Severe NCLB development during grain fill can result in yield losses of 30 percent or more. Don't forget to also scout fields planted with resistant hybrids as they are not fool-proof for disease development. It is possible this disease will progress. Applications made between VT and R2 should protect the crop. Avoid applications between V12 and V18, or if you must treat at this time, do not use adjuvants since this increases the risk of arrested ear development. More information can be found in Alison Robertson’s recent ICM article, Update on Northern Corn Leaf Blight. This article also contains a link to Fungicide Efficacy for Control of Corn Diseases product table.

Goss's Wilt
A local DuPont Pioneer manager shared that Goss's wilt was found in a field in Hamilton County. When scouting for Goss's wilt focus your attention on hybrids susceptible to

Soil, Water and Wind
Are you thinking that you might want to try a new practice that would address water quality concerns? Now might be the time to investigate some options. The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship has announced the availability of funds for cover crops, no-till, strip till or the use of a nitrification inhibitor. Priority is given to those who are first time users of one of these practices. Don't delay, nearly $1.6 million dollars have already been allocated. First time users should apply...
Goss's wilt; fields with a history of Goss's wilt, fields with surface corn residue, and fields that may have recently been injured by severe weather. Goss' wilt lesions are long, gray-green fading to tan and appear water-soaked. An identifying characteristic are the 'freckles' within the lesions. This disease is caused by a bacterium so fungicides are not effective. Management includes choosing resistant hybrids. The following photo was adapted from a 2011 ICM article by Alison Robertson.

Soybean Aphid
I have had a few reports of people finding soybean aphids and I have seen a few, but so far they have been at low levels.

Corn Rootworm
I have been on several calls regarding corn lodging due to rootworm damage. In all situations, this was corn following soybean and there was no insecticide used and no Bt trait for rootworm. It would appear that we are seeing extended diapause. This condition is characterized by a population of northern corn rootworm eggs that survive two winters and a growing season to hatch in the second season. Although this article is from last year, *Update on Corn Rootworm in Iowa*, it provides a good review of management tactics going forward in time.

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Serving
Calhoun, Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hamilton, Hardin, Humboldt, Webster, Worth and Wright Counties.
Events

**Weeds Week**, 5 locations - Aug 3-7
- [http://www.aep.iastate.edu/weeds/](http://www.aep.iastate.edu/weeds/)

**Iowa Drainage School**, Nashua - Aug 25-27
- [http://www.aep.iastate.edu/ids/](http://www.aep.iastate.edu/ids/)

**CCA Exam Review** - online course (new for 2015!)
- [http://www.aep.iastate.edu/cca/](http://www.aep.iastate.edu/cca/)

**Nutrient Reduction Strategy Field Day**- Gilmore City Drainage Farm, August 27, 5-8 p.m. More details to be announced.

The following is a partial list of farmland leasing meetings being organized by our ISUEO Farm Management Team. Contact your local County Extension office to register. Registration fees apply in most counties.

Cerro Gordo, August 19 at 1:30 p.m., at the Beem Center at NIACC. Call 641-423-0844 to register.

Franklin, August 11 at 7:00 p.m., at the United Methodist Church. Call 641-456-4811 to register.

Hamilton, August 5 at 1:30 p.m., at the Hamilton Co. Extension Office. Call 515-832-9597 to register.

Hardin, August 19 at 7:00 p.m., at Ellsworth CC, Hamilton Auditorium. Call 641-648-4850 to register.

Humboldt, August 4 at 1:30 p.m., at Humboldt Co. Extension Office. Call 515-332-2201 to register.

Webster, August 20 at 1:30 p.m., at Webster Co. Extension Office. Call 515-576-2119 to register.

Wright, August 20, at 9:00 a.m., at Wright Co. Extension Office. Call 515-532-3453 to register.