Crop Observations

Stand counts
I have seen corn from VE to V3 across the 9 counties I cover. Once you reach VE-V1 take time to conduct a stand count and check population. Knowing these numbers helps you to evaluate planting efficiency and gives you a baseline if conditions warrant replanting. Generally speaking, the corn is looking very uniform with even spacing and even emergence.

Soybean planting was in full swing yesterday, May 13, but I have seen a few fields that range from VE to V1. Again, a stand count helps you determine where you start. As you evaluate stands in both corn and soybean take time to note planting depth and conditions that are normal and "not normal". Dig plants to evaluate what is happening.

Seedling Diseases
I have not seen any seedling diseases in either corn or beans. While we continue to see rain in most places, we have not had an extended cold and/or wet period so disease pressure appears to be low at this point in time. If you notice any seedling diseases please give me a call as our pathologists on campus are always looking for fields to monitor.

Black cutworms
Black cutworm moth catches have been sporadic at best. I monitor one trap in Hamilton County and have caught 1 moth, John Holmes at North Central Co-op in Clarion.

Soil, Water and Wind

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship announced that funds are available to help farmers install nutrient reduction practices. Specific practices eligible for funding include cover crops, no-till, strip-till, or using a nitrification inhibitor when applying nitrogen fertilizer.

Farmers are eligible to receive cost-share dollars on up to 160 acres and can begin submitting applications through their local Soil and Water Conservation District offices. IDALS also encourages farmers to visit with their local Soil and Water
caught 9 months on April 17, and this past Monday, Micah Smidt at the Northern Research Farm at Kanawha also caught 9. Nearly half of the 100+ sites have reported no catches. So far, a scouting advisory has not been released, but keep an eye on fields with weedy vegetation and low-lying areas. Look for clipped corn plants.

Events

**June 25- Hold the Date**
The Northern Iowa Research and Demonstration Farm will host a field day. Topics and time to be announced.

**Crop Scouting Competition**
Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is hosting a Crop Scouting Competition for Iowa youth on August 4th. More details and registration information is available at [Crop Scouting Competition](#). Registration is due by July 1.

**Weeds Week - Workshops Focusing on Herbicide Resistance Management**
Friday, August 7, 2015, Field Extension Education Lab (FEEL) near Ames. More details to come.
Department of Agriculture cooperating.

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