Indiana Crop & Weather Report

INDIANA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 8

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Winter wheat harvest is nearing completion in most southern regions of the state and was in full swing in central areas during the week. Farmers continued to spray, bale hay and straw and plant double crop soybeans as conditions permitted. Most areas received much needed rain, but dry soil conditions remain in the southwestern areas. Thunderstorms and strong winds moved through some areas of the state.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 4.5 **days suitable for fieldwork** . Corn **condition** is rated 78 percent good to excellent compared with 78 percent last week and 85 percent last year at this time. Twenty-three percent of the corn acreage has **silked** compared with 25 percent last year and 11 percent for the 5-year average. Twenty-seven percent of the soybean acreage is **blooming** compared with 35 percent last year and 21 percent for the average. Soybean **condition** is rated 66 percent good to excellent compared with 68 percent last week and 64 percent last year. Other activities during the week included, cleaning out grain bins, repairing equipment, moving grain to market and preparing for county fairs.

Winter wheat **condition** is rated 69 percent good to excellent compared with 73 percent a year ago at this time. Wheat **harvest** is 66 percent complete compared with 78 percent last year and 60 percent for the 5-year average. By area, wheat harvest is 14 percent complete in the north, 75 percent complete in the central regions and 97 percent complete in the south.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 9 percent excellent, 45 percent good, 30 percent fair, 11 percent poor and 5 percent very poor. Second cutting of **alfalfa** hay is 39 percent complete. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Silked	23	3	25	11
Soybeans Blooming	27	15	35	21
Wheat Harvested	66	48	78	60
Alfalfa Second Cutting	39	25	47	35

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
			Percent		
Corn	0	3	19	59	19
Soybeans	1	5	28	56	10
Pasture	5	11	30	45	9
Winter Wheat 2001	1	4	26	54	15

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
		Percent	
Topsoil			
Very Short	4	1	0
Short	12	13	4
Adequate	72	78	71
Surplus	12	8	25
Subsoil			
Very Short	6	3	2
Short	15	17	15
Adequate	71	75	71
Surplus	8	5	12
Days Suitable	4.5	6.1	3.5

CONTACT INFORMATION

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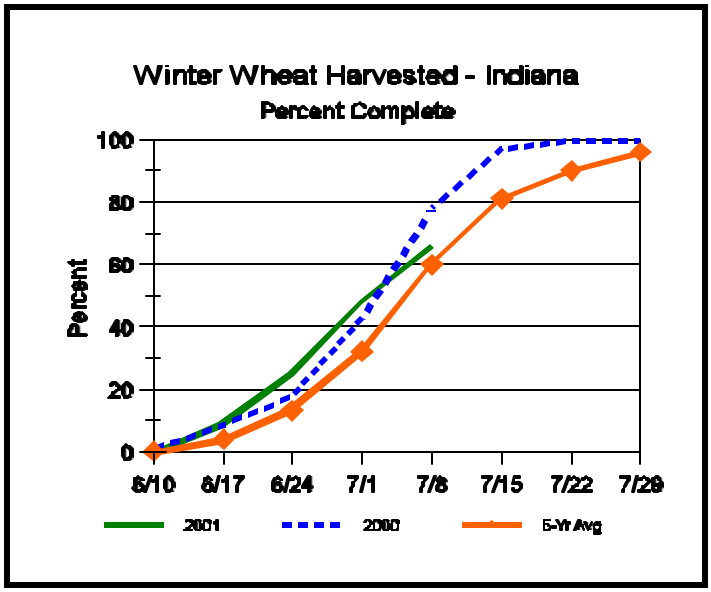
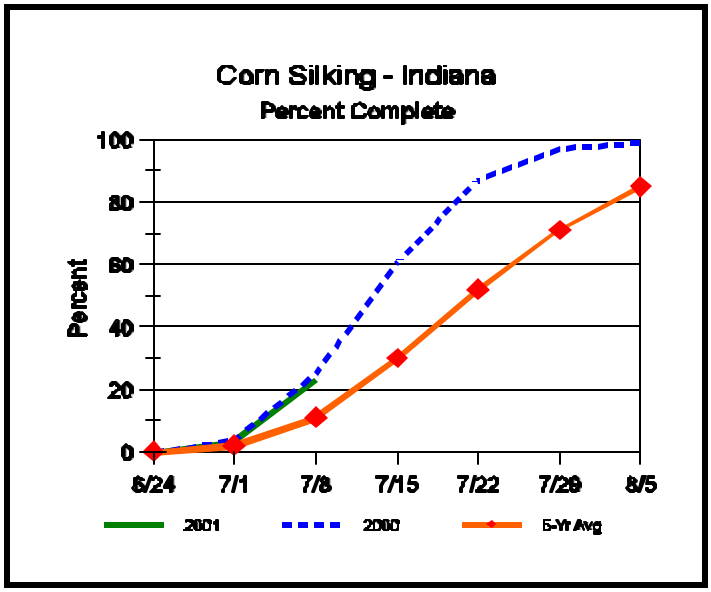
Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Yellow Beans, Rain, and Spider Mites

- Spider mites may or may not be the cause of discolored soybean leaves
- Rain indirectly slows or aids in the control of spider mites
- Consider several factors before treating spider mites

Reports of and questions about spider mites in soybean fields have begun to come in from several areas of the state. Most pest managers are well aware of the close association of moisture stressed soybean plants and spider mites. Now that some much needed rains have moved through most of the state (July 3 and 4) will yellow soybean fields and spider mites go away?

A number of factors can cause leaf yellowing. These include soybean cyst nematode, nutrient deficiencies, poor nodulation, herbicide injury, sucking insects, diseases, compaction, etc. Spider mites may be present along with any of these other plant stressers. Spider mites may or may not be causing the problem. In other words, it's the old chicken and egg dilemma. Stressed plants actually provide a better nutritional feast for spider mites thus they thrive and quickly colonize areas or whole fields. The best spider mite control is to eliminate plant stress, and this is sometimes easier said than done.

Rain indirectly controls spider mites. Pounding rains can physically knock spider mites off plants where they meet their doom by drowning or becoming food for ground dwelling predators. More importantly, rains increase humidity that slows the spider mite reproduction and favors pathogenic fungi. Several days of relative humidity above 70% may induce an epizootic wiping out the spider mite population. On the other hand, warm temperatures and low humidity returning after rain may only delay the spider mite infestation. Above all else, significant rain helps the soybean crop to grow and provides less of a "protein broth" for the spider mites.

Before considering control, it is very important that spider mites are identified as the source of the problem. Shake some discolored soybean leaves over a white piece of paper. Watch for small dark specks moving about on the paper. Also look for minute webbing on the undersides of the discolored leaves. Once spider mites have been positively identified in the damaged areas of the field, it is essential that the whole field be scouted to determine the range of infestation. Sample in at least five different areas of the field and determine whether the spider mites are present or not by using the "shake" method.

Reduction of crop yield is directly related to duration and intensity of the mite attack. The most severe damage occurs when the infestation starts in the early stages of plant growth and builds throughout the season (extended drought). However, a heavy

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Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday July 8, 2001

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
								April 1, 2001 thru July 8, 2001				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Valparaiso_Ag	87	46	70	-3	0.57	4		10.73	-2.41	49	1295	+131
Wanatah	86	43	66	-7	1.50	5	74	12.22	-0.30	50	1234	+128
Wheatfield	87	42	66	-7	1.29	5		11.94	-0.44	48	1304	+165
Winamac	85	44	66	-7	1.98	3	73	15.17	+2.73	49	1306	+106
North Central(2)												
Logansport	86	46	67	-7	1.34	6		15.91	+3.97	51	1307	+90
Plymouth	84	42	65	-9	1.80	5		13.01	+0.03	48	1197	-54
South_Bend	83	42	67	-7	2.14	5		14.51	+2.32	48	1274	+127
Young_America	87	44	67	-7	1.92	5		12.01	+0.07	43	1398	+181
Northeast (3)												
Bluffton	82	47	67	-8	1.53	6	69	13.31	+0.77	51	1335	+84
Fort_Wayne	83	45	68	-7	2.74	6		13.16	+1.83	50	1315	+108
West Central (4)												
Crawfordsville	91	41	66	-9	1.85	4	73	11.53	-1.69	43	1323	-22
Perrysville	92	45	69	-6	2.33	3	73	9.73	-3.56	40	1454	+147
Terre_Haute_Ag	96	47	70	-6	2.95	3	76	15.83	+2.68	39	1613	+212
W_Lafayette_6NW	91	45	69	-5	2.47	5	74	10.68	-1.59	41	1447	+223
Central (5)												
Castleton	88	48	69	-7	3.04	4		15.36	+2.80	41	1461	+98
Greenfield	86	48	69	-6	2.85	6		14.22	+1.09	44	1451	+139
Greensburg	86	51	70	-5	1.84	5		14.44	+0.94	40	1559	+262
Indianapolis_AP	86	48	70	-6	3.09	4		13.52	+1.23	36	1566	+178
Indianapolis_SE	87	46	67	-9	2.48	4		12.37	-0.19	35	1390	+27
Tipton_Ag	87	42	65	-8	1.12	4	71	11.47	-0.78	36	1276	+97
East Central (6)												
Farmland	85	43	66	-7	0.63	3	69	12.96	+0.46	42	1316	+178
New_Castle	84	46	65	-9	1.62	4		18.81	+5.26	47	1171	+3
Southwest (7)												
Dubois_Ag	91	51	72	-3	0.93	2	79	11.98	-2.49	35	1685	+269
Evansville	93	55	77	-2	0.14	3		9.47	-3.81	36	1867	+204
Freelandville	91	50	72	-5	0.42	1		9.68	-4.01	33	1675	+215
Shoals	90	50	70	-5	0.31	3		11.27	-3.37	38	1569	+172
Vincennes_5NE	92	49	72	-5	1.14	2	74	9.10	-4.59	28	1736	+276
South Central(8)												
Bloomington	89	49	69	-7	3.69	3		13.82	+0.45	41	1579	+161
Tell_City	91	56	75	-3	0.15	1		11.42	-3.48	26	1776	+214
Southeast (9)												
Scottsburg	86	52	71	-5	1.69	4		13.06	-0.52	44	1631	+183

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

infestation at seed set (mid-season dry period) can still cause economic damage. Before applying controls, carefully consider that, depending when damage is noted, multiple insecticide applications may be necessary. This is because surviving spider mites are able to repopulate a field faster than natural predators that are often prevalent in infested fields. If leaf discoloration is apparent, spider mites are positively identified as the culprit, and hot, dry conditions are expected to persist, it is recommended that a control be considered.

If a control is warranted, two pesticides are recommended for use. These include dimethoate (Dimethoate 400 and 4 EC) and chlorpyrifos (Lorsban 4E). Proper placement of these pesticides is the key to successful control. Nozzle pressures of 40 psi and 30 - 40 gallons of water per acre for ground application helps distribute the pesticide throughout the foliage. If using aerial application, the control material should be applied in 3 - 5 gallons of finished spray per acre. Normally, aerial applications are not as efficacious as ground applications due to limited surface-area coverage. So where possible, use ground application. Also, research has shown that mite controls work best in the early morning or evening hours. This is primarily due to more stable weather conditions, less convection currents and evaporation, resulting in better targeting of the pesticide.

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