



On The Radar



June 11th, 2021



Status by Crop

Corn: V4-V6

Soybeans: V2-V3

Potato: close to 4–16" tall & earlier planted at 40-70% canopy

Cabbage: 3 true leaves (seed planted); 8 true leaves (transplants)

Carrots: cotyledon pushing 1st true leaf – 4 true leaves



Corn Tissue Sampling

Now is a good time to take corn tissue samples in order to ensure target fertility levels.

For fields where the corn is larger than 12", pull the uppermost collared leaf.

A lot of Anhydrous Ammonia and top-dress applications are going out.





Soybeans

Some first and hopefully final post emergence herbicide sprays are going out on the soybeans as we have some 5-6" weeds that we want to take down before they're too big.





Alfalfa

Last week's weather systems appeared to have blown in some potato leafhoppers from the South as we were finding higher levels in some potato fields.

This week, sweeps were being done of the alfalfa (3" tall +) – the leafhoppers weren't near economic thresholds, but in some cases pea aphids were!

When pea aphids reach 100 aphids/sweep, and a cutting was planned to occur in the next 7 days, it is recommended to cut early to reduce populations; otherwise, an insecticide spray is necessary.



Sweep net full of mostly pea aphids.



Water, water!

With this week's heat, the irrigation had to run often to make sure that the plants weren't water stressed or over heated.

Crops like Potatoes, Carrots, recently transplanted Cabbage have a very shallow/not well-developed root system, making them very susceptible to water stress.



Water stress can lead to reduced yield in potatoes, the leaf stomata close to decrease water loss, but at the same time lowering the plant's photosynthesis capacity.

This week, we saw some cases of later planted creamer potatoes with burnt sprouts, due to the intense heat of the upper portion of the hills.

Potatoes





Potato Petiole Nutrient Analysis

- Many potato growers make weekly petiole nutrient testing part of their routine management regime.
- This usually takes place for 5-6 weeks beginning around mid-June and ending around mid- to late July.





Major focus for carrots is still weed control & making sure that the carrots are well watered in the heat.

Making sure that herbicide sprays are not being applied in the high heat — early morning and latenight applications to have the best effect & reduced burning of the carrots.

Carrots



Carrots with a 4" spade behind them to show sizing of carrot plants.



Cabbage

Finding diamondback moth larva, which are very small pests that require an up-close look at typically the leaf undersides.



