



On The Radar

August 26 , 2022



Status by Crop

Corn: R1 (milk)–R5 (dent)

Soybeans: R3 (beginning pod)-R5.5 (mid-pod fill)

Potato: 100% canopy; canopy starting to senescence – start of harvest on early varieties

Cabbage: baseball sized heads – 10" diameter heads; early planted are harvest ready

Carrots: 8 true leaves-100% canopy

Estimating Corn Yield



For 30" rows:

- 1. Measure 17.4 feet Within that span:
- 2. Count the # of harvestable ears.
- 3. Pick 10 ears and count the number of complete kernel rows and the number of kernels per row.
- 4. Multiply the number of rows by the number of kernels per row. This will give you the number of kernels per ear.
- 5. Calculate the average number of kernels per ear by adding the values of each ear and dividing by the number of ears that you performed steps 3 and 4 on.
- 6. Multiply the number of ears in the 17.4 feet by the average number of kernels per ear.
- 7. Divide this number by 75-85 depending on growing conditions. Divide by 75 for excellent conditions and 85 for poor conditions.
- 8. You will end up with a bu/a yield estimate.

Source: The University of Purdue Extension. (2015) The Corn and Soybean Field Guide . Purdue crop diagnostic training and research center.



Soybeans - Grasshoppers

More grasshopper feeding found in fields this week – feeding normally of economic concern when the pods are fed on.

Grasshopper populations normally move in from field edges, so observing the degree of feeding along edges is typical for field's grasshopper pressure assessment.



Grasshopper damage on soybean pod. Photo: Kelly Estes, Illinois Natural History Survey

Soybeans - Loopers



Soybean looper populations are starting to grow in fields. Their feeding is typically on foliage and not the pods and there are a variety of beneficials that prey on loopers.

The R5-R6 stages of soybeans are less tolerant to defoliation than later stages.

20% defoliation is the NCSU Extension's recommended economic threshold for pod filling or younger reproductive stages of soybeans & 35% for more mature stages.

Potatoes

The start of potato harvest and vine-kill has begun. Many fields aren't quite ready for vine kill as some more tuber bulking is needed, which hopefully our weather will remain ideal for!

As fields are vine-killed, doing digs throughout the field to assess tuber skin set can help develop a harvest strategy for fields.







When Do I Kill My Potatoes?

Potatoes are vine killed once they hit a certain size. These are russet potatoes that will end up in a restaurant or on a grocery store shelf.

They are sized and packaged at packing facilities around the country. Growers get paid by how much each size is worth at the time.



Carrots – Deer Damage

Getting to the time of year that carrot fields tend to be a "deer buffet". As bad as their feeding can look, no action is normally taken as there are very little economically feasible deterrents available.



Carrot Bolting

Bolting in carrots is when a carrot plant produces flowers and seeds before it's ready to harvest. This makes them unusable as carrots are harvested by their tops. This can happen when carrots are exposed to cold weather or changes in day length as they approach maturity.



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Soil Sampling Soil Fertility Tests

Start of soil sampling at Pest Pros as more fields are getting harvest!





See You Next Season!

