

NEWSLETTER

June 2024



Crop Progress

Rainfall continued to hinder planting progress the last few weeks, but all of our farmers are now finished! Most fields are doing very well despite the challenges that come with the abundant rainfall we have had since April. The Iowa Crop Progress and Condition Report released June 10 rated 73% of corn and 73% of soybeans as good to excellent.

Strong Soybean Yields Are Still Possible with Low Populations

If your soybean fields have thin stands there is still potential for strong yields. Michigan State University Extension found that soybean fields with less than 80,000 plants per acre were still capable of producing yields comparable to those produced by fields with more than 120,000 plants per acre. When soybeans are given more space, they can grow bigger and produce more pods, and the extra space can also reduce white mold incidence. For more information, scan the QR code.



Consider Fungicide This Year

This year's conditions so far have increased the risk of yield-robbing diseases. Consider a fungicide application at VT to R1 in corn and R1 to R3 in soybeans to help protect your crops.



Spray fungicide to control:

- Tar spot
- Rusts
- Gray leaf spot
- Physoderma
- Northern corn leaf blight
- Anthracnose
- White mold
- Brown spot
- Powdery mildew
- Frogeye leaf spot

Corn and Bean Plots

We have several corn and bean plots in around the area. Local plots provide valuable insights on each hybrid and variety and we couldn't do it without our plot cooperators. Thank you to Jeff Sherlock, Meier Family Farms, Darrell Murphy, Nathan Priest, and Andrew Focht!

Scouting

In corn, watch for common stalk borer larva, corn rootworm egg hatch, European corn borer, and true armyworm larvae. In soybeans, look for gall midge and defoliation of leaves from Japanese beetles, bean leaf beetles, grasshoppers, and caterpillars. Remember to scout early and often!

