8-11-2009

Degree Days - Average IS a Good Thing

Richard O. Pope
Iowa State University, ropope@iastate.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/cropnews

Part of the Agricultural Science Commons, Agriculture Commons, Agronomy and Crop Sciences Commons, Meteorology Commons, and the Plant Pathology Commons

Recommended Citation
http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/cropnews/556

The Iowa State University Digital Repository provides access to Integrated Crop Management News for historical purposes only. Users are hereby notified that the content may be inaccurate, out of date, incomplete and/or may not meet the needs and requirements of the user. Users should make their own assessment of the information and whether it is suitable for their intended purpose. For current information on integrated crop management from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, please visit https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/.
Abstract
A nearly average week of heat and some rain to boot! August could not have started better for Iowans, except for the band of hail and wind damage along the U.S. 20 / Iowa 175 corridor. For the week, we only lost around 10 to 15 base-50F degree days to average across Iowa. Like they say, just what the doctor ordered (except for the hail!). Statewide, corn development ranges from brown silk (R2) to dough stage (R3), and soybeans are busily filling pods (R4–R5).

Keywords
Plant Pathology

Disciplines
Agricultural Science | Agriculture | Agronomy and Crop Sciences | Meteorology | Plant Pathology
Degree Days - Average IS a Good Thing

By Rich Pope, Department of Plant Pathology

A nearly average week of heat and some rain to boot! August could not have started better for Iowans, except for the band of hail and wind damage along the U.S. 20 / Iowa 175 corridor. For the week, we only lost around 10 to 15 base-50°F degree days to average across Iowa. Like they say, just what the doctor ordered (except for the hail!).

Statewide, corn development ranges from brown silk (R2) to dough stage (R3), and soybeans are busily filling pods (R4--R5).

Base 50°F degree days
May 1 through August 9, 2009

Soybean aphid numbers are increasing with some fields reaching the economic threshold of 250 per plant and increasing; most notably in the northeast, but in other scattered areas as well.

Corn leaf aphids have been bothersome in northwest and north central Iowa as well. There are not good thresholds available for treatment for aphids on corn, but extension entomologist Erin Hodgson posted a recent ICM News article that highlights the corn aphid. Corn leaf aphid numbers typically decline after tasselling, so the problem may soon start to ebb.

Also of interest is the Web page assembled by ISU Extension addressing late-season hail issues.

Rich Pope is a program specialist with responsibilities with Integrated Pest Management. Pope can be contacted at rnpope@iastate.edu or by calling (515) 294-5899.