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## Degree Days - Cool July With Good Crop Conditions

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### Degree Days - Cool July With Good Crop Conditions

#### **Abstract**

Iowa corn is tasselling and silking this week. We think of the silk date as a marker for the final 60 to 65 days in which the corn reaches physiological maturity. That means we might expect dry down to extend into October across the state. Soybeans are setting pods, and with timely August rainfall, pods should fill nicely. Last week we lost approxiamtely 50 degree days to average across Iowa, making July 2009 as one of the ten coolest in history.

#### Keywords

Plant Pathology

#### Disciplines

Agricultural Science | Agriculture | Agronomy and Crop Sciences | Meteorology

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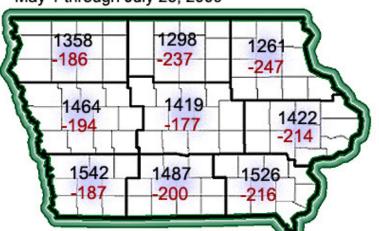


# **Degree Days - Cool July With Good Crop Conditions**

#### By Rich Pope, Department of Plant Pathology

lowa corn is tasselling and silking this week. We think of the silk date as a marker for the final 60 to 65 days in which the corn reaches physiological maturity. That means we might expect dry down to extend into October across the state. Soybeans are setting pods, and with timely August rainfall, pods should fill nicely. Last week we lost approximately 50 degree days to average across lowa, making July 2009 as one of the ten coolest in history.

Base 50°F degree days May 1 through July 26, 2009



Top number: accumulated degree days

Bottom number: departure from average

Scouting for pests now has the potential to influence yield profits. Soybean aphids are present in many areas, particularly central and northern lowa, but most populations are below the economic threshold. Corn diseases like eyespot (especially in north central and central lowa) and gray leaf spot (especially in southwest and south central lowa) should be monitored. For soybean, we are seeing a few fields with sudden death syndrome symptoms being expressed.

Rich Pope is a program specialist with responsibilities with Integrated Pest Management. Pope can be contacted by email at <a href="mailto:ropope@iastate.edu">ropope@iastate.edu</a> or by calling (515) 294-5899.

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