2009

Farm and Weather Summary

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Farm and Weather Summary

Abstract
Includes:

Farm Comments
Crop Season Comments
Weather Comments

Disciplines
Agricultural Science | Agriculture
Farm and Weather Summary

Kevin Van Dee, farm superintendent

Farm Comments

Developments. The year 2008 was the first time the research farm managed the new land addition. Approximately half of the crop ground was dedicated to a subsurface drainage study. Also in 2008, the Harvestore and an open-front cattle shed were razed in order to construct a 50 x 120 ft machinery storage hoop barn.

Field Days and Tours. Three events were held in 2008. The spring field day drew a large crowd. The student agricultural day and the fall field day also were successful events. A total of 951 people visited the farm in 2008.

New Projects. Soybean fungicide by insecticide study, Alison Robertson; Corn fungicide IPM study, Alison Robertson; Subsurface drainage study, Greg Brenneman; Sugar beet biofuel variety trial, Vince Lawson; Corn herbicide demonstration, Jim Fawcett.

Crop Season Comments

Corn planting began May 5 and was completed May 22. Harvest began October 8 and was completed November 13 with yields of 150 to 234 bushels/acre.

Soybean planting began May 6 and was completed June 19. Harvest began September 26 and was completed October 29 with yields of 40 to 63 bushels/acre.

Weather Comments


Spring 2008. Precipitation was above average during the spring, delaying planting until early May. Temperatures were below average for the first three months of the growing season, further delaying crop progress.

Summer 2008. Temperatures fluctuated somewhat during the summer months. June temperatures were above average, but the remaining months were below average. There were only two days with temperatures above 90°F during 2008. Precipitation totals were near average or above during the entire summer.

Fall 2008. Corn yields were above average in both corn following soybeans and continuous corn. Soybean yields were generally average compared with recent years. Soil moisture is at capacity going into 2009.

Table 1. Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm, Crawfordsville, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2008.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2008 Rainfall (in.)</th>
<th>Deviation from normal</th>
<th>2008 Temperature (°F)</th>
<th>Deviation from normal</th>
<th>Days 90° or above above</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>-1.40</td>
<td>35.1</td>
<td>-3.5</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>5.34</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>49.0</td>
<td>-3.1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>5.36</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>59.2</td>
<td>-3.1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>6.26</td>
<td>2.06</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>0.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>3.34</td>
<td>-0.20</td>
<td>73.1</td>
<td>-1.8</td>
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<td>August</td>
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<td>69.9</td>
<td>-2.9</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>8.16</td>
<td>5.76</td>
<td>63.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>2.36</td>
<td>-0.78</td>
<td>50.9</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>35.54</td>
<td>7.66</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>