Knee High by When?

Richard O. Pope

Iowa State University, ropope@iastate.edu
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Abstract
Independence Day has come and gone, and scant acres of corn in most of Iowa have reached that old, outdated saw of knee high by the fourth of July. On my weekend trip to western Iowa, I saw corn ranging from V2 to VT! Admittedly, very little acreage was at either extreme, but it illustrates the continuing range of crop conditions that we will deal with through and after harvest this year.

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Knee High by When?

By Rich Pope, Department of Plant Pathology

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Base 50°F degree days
May 1 through July 6, 2008

Degree days accumulated during the first week of July were again slightly behind average. Because of crop plant’s limited root growth from the onslateg of the cool and wet conditions during the late spring, receiving timely rainfall will remain an ongoing issue through the remainder of the season.

Rich Pope is an extension specialist with responsibilities in the Corn and Soybean Initiative.

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