June is bustin’ out all over

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Abstract
Another week with near-normal temperatures coupled with adequate soil moisture in most areas has crop and pest growth coming on strong. Most of the corn and soybeans has at least emerged, with corn to stage V6 and a few soybeans to stage V3. Expect rapid growth as temperatures are projected to be well above normal for the coming week. Light rains the past week relieved some emergence problems due to soil crusting. Weeds are growing rapidly as well, and postemergence herbicides and cultivation are prime activities as the weather allows.

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A few occasional insect pests are showing up scattered across the state. Alfalfa producers should take at least a cursory look for alfalfa weevils, especially watching new cuttings in case weevil larvae feed on buds and delay green-up. Bean leaf beetles on soybeans are active, but damage is mostly minor to VC to V2 soybeans. Finally, stalk borers are moving, or are about ready to, according to the map in last week’s ICM Newsletter (page 105).

Accumulated degree days
departure from average

Rich Pope is an extension program specialist in entomology with responsibilities in integrated pest management.

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