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Abstract
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Disciplines
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This week’s crop and weather report includes interviews with Elwynn Taylor, Iowa State University Extension climatologist; integrated pest management specialist Rich Pope; soybean agronomist Palle Pedersen; and soybean entomologist Erin Hodgson.

It appears that La Niña is dead—effective Monday, May 4, 2009, according to Taylor. He doesn’t guarantee ideal growing season weather, but says it should eliminate extremes in temperature and precipitation.

A wet week slowed corn planting except in Northwest Iowa—where nearly all of the corn has now been planted, reports Pope. He says crusting is being reported in parts of Iowa due to heavy rainfall a week ago. Pope also introduces Erin Hodgson, the new extension soybean entomologist. Hodgson comes to ISU from Utah State.

Palle Pedersen says he is optimistic that 2009 will be a good year for soybean production in Iowa — especially now that this spring’s weather has been much better than the past couple of years.

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