July picks up where June left off

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Abstract
The first week of July was slightly cooler than normal statewide, and again, unfortunately, drier than normal. Corn is starting to tassel across Iowa, and moisture stress is a growing concern. Fortunately, crop breeding has provided us with varieties with improved drought tolerance; however, that only works to a point. Monitoring for pests is important, and grasshoppers and spider mites are two key insects to watch for.

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**Degree Days**

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*by Rich Pope, Department of Entomology*

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

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