



NEWTON COUNTY NEWS AG & NATURAL RESOURCES

KATHRYN WEISS, PURDUE EXTENSION — NEWTON COUNTY ANR EXTENSION EDUCATOR

Happy 4th of July!

We are halfway through 2021 (where has time gone?) but things here with the Ag & Natural Resources area are starting to pick up even more. This time two months ago we were going through another cold weather spell, and now we are finally enjoying some sunshine and warm weather! I don't know about you, but I am loving this weather. I hope everyone had a safe and successful planting season. The last few weeks I have enjoyed driving by fields to see how much they progress each day! We have some exciting events coming up in the near future that I'd like to share with you!

Fair week is quickly approaching and this year our program assistant and I will be having a table at the SWCD Earth Night on Wednesday, July 14 starting at 4:00 PM! We will be teaching kids about the birds of Indiana, helping them create an easy and fun bird feeder with common household items, as well as sending them home with a goodie bag. Come see us and learn about the different birds we have in Indiana!

The Area 9 Agriculture and Natural Resource Extension Educators are holding our annual ACRE Field Day IN PERSON (WOOHOO!) on Thursday, September 2nd at the Beck's Center in West Lafayette. We have a great line up of topics including soil health and mini bulk information. This year we hope to have a few field site visits as well! Because of COVID this event was held virtually last year but are very excited to be back in person this year!

I have been getting questions on PARP and CCH credit recertification opportunities for anyone holding an active applicators license. You can always call me at the office or if you'd like to look on your own you can visit <https://ppp.purdue.edu/private-applicators/recertification-parp/parp-events/>.

As always, if you have any suggestions, comments, questions, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at the extension office or by e-mail!

Stay safe and have a great holiday weekend!

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Interested in learning more about what we do?

Contact us:

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Visit us on the web at

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FEATURED BUG: CORN EARWORM

DESCRIPTION: Color highly variable from green, pink, tan to dark brown with alternating light and dark stripes running lengthwise on the body. There is usually a double mid-dorsal dark line the length of the body. Hairs are obvious and skin is rough. Adult moths are off-white or cream colored.

TIME OF ATTACK: July to harvest (stages V12-R6)

DAMAGE: Larva feed in the whorl causing shredded leaves and feed extensively on the ear tip kernels, but usually do not move beyond this area of the ear

SAMPLING: Monitor moths with pheromone traps.

ECONOMIC THRESHOLD: When silks are green and moths are being collected in traps, a 3-5 day spray schedule is necessary on higher value crops (such as seed or popcorn) where this insect is a pest of concern.

REFERENCE: Purdue Field Crops IPM, extension.entm.purdue.edu/fieldcropsipm



Photo by: J. Obermeyer

FEATURED WEED: QUACKGRASS



Photo from Purdue University Turfgrass Science

Sheath: Round

Ligule: Membranous, short

Blade: Rough, some hair

Auricles: Present, clasping stem

Quackgrass (*Elymus repens*) is a cool-season perennial that vigorously spreads by rhizomes. It is a sod-forming grass that can crowd out desirable grasses and even other weeds. Quackgrass has been shown to be allelopathic, which means it releases chemicals that inhibit the growth of other plants.

Leaves are an ashy, blue-green color and can sometimes have a longitudinal twist.

For more information, visit: <https://turf.purdue.edu/quackgrass/?cat=52>

NATURE'S FAUCETS PREDICTED TO BE TURNING OFF FOR THE REST OF THE MONTH

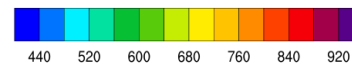
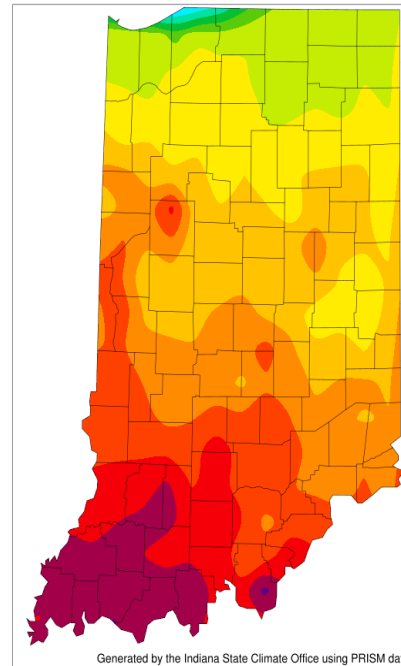
Written by: Beth Hall

While rain showers and scattered thunderstorms have fallen across Indiana the last few weeks, conditions still remain dry for most areas. Over the last 30 days, the precipitation has been between 25% to 75% of what is normal for the northern part of the state with the southern part of state seeing a mixture of above- and below-normal amounts for that time period. This means abnormally dry conditions are still lingering in various pockets across the state, including the northern counties, west-central counties, and even a few southeast counties near the Ohio River. There is still a long growing season ahead of us and June is typically the wettest month of the April through October period. Groundwater supplies are still limited and low in many places in northern Indiana, so be cognizant when determining water usage.

Temperatures for the rest of June are expected to be rather typical for this time of year, which is hopefully good. This should keep evapotranspiration rates down. Modified growing degree-day (MGDD) accumulations are trying to catch up to amounts seen in recent years. This upcoming weekend will be warm, which will increase the rate of those accumulations. Figure 3 shows the MGDD accumulation since April 1. There are no significant weather or climate hazards expected over the next few weeks.

Growing Degree Day (50 F / 86 F) Accumulation

April 1 - June 9, 2021



PURDUE RESOURCES

- * [Center for Commercial Agriculture](#) The Center for Commercial Agriculture has been hosting many live webinars to watch that are also recorded so you can view them at a later time. There are even podcasts available as well. Some of the topics include: ag outlook webinars, Coronavirus Food Assistance Program application details, updates on livestock and meat, and much more. There is also a newsletter that you can subscribe to to keep you up to date on information and events happening with the CCA. These resources can be found at: <https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/home/programs/>
- * [Forestry and Natural Resources](#) The FNR Faculty has four science-based podcasts covering different aspects of natural resource management. You can subscribe to the entire network, which will bring you a different podcast each week, or you can subscribe to an individual podcast, which will release one episode a month. The four podcasts are: Deer University, Pond University, Fire University, and Habitat University. To learn more or to subscribe, visit: <https://ag.purdue.edu/fnr/Pages/ZischkeBrookePodcasts.aspx>