



Farm and Weather Summary

Matt Groves—farm superintendent

Farm Comments

Developments. Several staff changes occurred with the retirement of Dallas Maxwell, Jim Rogers and departure of John Beckman, Ryan Farmer was hired as a crop specialist and Matt Groves as superintendent. Corn and soybean yields were phenomenal at both Armstrong and Neely-Kinyon Memorial Research and Demonstration Farms. A July windstorm took the cover off the commodity hoop barn, which the farm staff replaced in mid-November. Mid-November also saw the removal of several dead trees around the house at the Armstrong farm. Plans for a new shop/machine shed at Armstrong farm still are being discussed.

Field days and tours. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach had a forage field day at Neely-Kinyon in August. Armstrong farm hosted several plot days, Dan Robison, endowed dean's chair in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, a district FFA soils contest, and numerous other meetings throughout the year. Raelyn Barkley is doing a great job increasing awareness of the Wallace Learning Center for events such as weddings and graduation parties and the farm hosted about 1,100 visitors this year.

New projects. AdvanSix, M. Licht; Hybrid Rye yield trial, PFI.

Livestock. Armstrong Farm again fed-out the steer calves from the cow herd at the McNay Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm in Chariton. The summer offered adequate grazing for the fall McNay heifer calves before they were shipped to another research farm to be finished.

Crop Season Comments

Planting was completed within a two-week period from the end of April to the first of May due to excellent weather and field conditions. Beginning in May, the farms received timely rains that helped produce record corn and soybean yields. Armstrong corn averaged 209 bushels per acre and soybean averaged 71 bushels per acre. Yields at Neely-Kinyon were 245 bushels per acre on corn and 69 bushels per acre on soybean.

Weather Comments

Winter 2020-2021. The winter was mild with little snow and above-average temperatures. It was a good winter for cattle feeding.

Spring 2021. Spring operations started in early April with planting starting April 28.

Summer 2021. Warmer than normal temperatures and timely rains aided in good grass and hay growth. A July windstorm damaged the hoop buildings and "goosenecked" the corn making it difficult to combine, but didn't seem to affect yield.

Fall 2020. Hay fields saw the infestation of fall army worms. Taking a late cutting of hay seemed to do the trick on them. Fall weather conditions early were ideal for harvest. Harvest started September 20 and was finished October 27, with several rain events keeping workers out of the field for a few days. Good grain dry-down happened in the field, with only fans used on grain bins (no LP gas was needed). Fall field work was finished by late November.

Table 1. Armstrong Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm monthly rainfall and average temperatures.

Month	Rainfall, inches		Temperature, °F		Days 90°F or above
	2021	Deviation from normal	2021	Deviation from normal	
March	4.01	+2.17	44.41	+4.52	0
April	1.05	-0.87	51.71	+1.20	0
May	3.36	-0.35	60.25	-1.12	0
June	3.05	-0.09	74.59	+1.33	10
July	6.83	-1.27	74.03	+0.17	4
August	2.76	-2.95	74.57	+2.72	4
September	2.42	-1.56	68.86	+01.60	2
October	4.49	+1.62	55.59	+3.70	0
Totals	27.97	-3.30			20

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Iowa Beef Center

Iowa Farmer Today

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Scouler Grain

Farm Bureau

Fox Welding

Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity

Farm Credit Services—Red Oak

Lyman Vet Clinic

21st Century Coop

Wyffels Hybrids

Mike Muhlbauer

Marlin Rossell

Waters Farm Supply—Cumberland

AgriVision—Massena

Lindeman Ford Tractor—Atlantic

Pioneer Seed Company BASF/ASA

Sandbothe Firestone

Cass County NRCS

Iowa Western Community College

Lamb Tiling

Glen Jones

Weirich Welding

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