

2008

Farm and Weather Summary

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Farm and Weather Summary

Abstract

Includes:

Farm Comments

Crop Season Comments

Weather Comments

Disciplines

Agricultural Science | Agriculture

Farm and Weather Summary

Bernie Havlovic, farm superintendent

Farm Comments

Developments: An automated water fountain monitoring system was installed in one pen of the feedlot. Bob Burcham retired in October after 14 years at the Armstrong and Neely-Kinyon Farms.

Field Days and Tours: The farms held 41 events, with a total of 2,869 people attending the various field days, classes, group tours, and meetings.

New Projects: Low K × corn hybrid study, Antonio Mallarino; Soybean population × plant oil content, Palle Pedersen; Soybean herbicide trial, Jim Lux; Soybean growth and development, Palle Pedersen; Switchgrass variety trial, Mark Smith; Comparison of corn planter seed monitoring devices, Kyle Jensen; Ohio State corn hybrid seed blending study, Kathleen Delate; Tomato and pepper irrigation trial, Hank Taber; and Seeds of Life flowering shrub demonstration, Eldon Everhart.

Livestock: Abundant rainfall created good season-long pasture grazing. The March 2 blizzard and record setting rainfall totals for May, August, and October created some very poor feedlot conditions.

Crop Season Comments

Corn planting started on May 1 and was completed by May 18. Harvest began on September 25 and was completed on November 14, with an average yield of 170 bushels/acre.

Soybean planting started on May 15 and was completed on June 2. Harvest began on September 29 and was completed on November 14, with an average yield of 65.5 bushels/acre.

Weather Comments

Winter 2006–2007: The coldest temperature for the year was -11°F on January 16. We received more than 12 in. of snow on March 2, closing area roads for 72 hours.

Spring 2007: April and May rainfall totaled more than 14 in. and caused delays with both corn and soybean plantings. A record setting low temperature of 14° on April 17 damaged fruiting buds in area vineyards and orchards.

Summer 2007: Seasonal temperatures and a dry early summer dried out fields and allowed for row crops to catch up. August produced three severe thunderstorms and nearly 10 in. of rain.

Fall 2007: Weather during harvest was warm but very wet. The 8 in. of rain in October more than doubled the farm's previous record for that month. Harvest was not completed until mid-November.

Table 1. Armstrong Research and Demonstration Farm, Lewis, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2007.

Month	Rainfall (in.)		Temperature (°F)		Days 90° or above
	2007	Deviation from normal	2007	Deviation from normal	
March	4.12	1.83	44.8	2.4	0
April	4.57	1.56	47.9	-2.6	0
May	9.85	4.98	65.5	4.0	0
June	1.58	-2.95	75.3	-0.7	0
July	2.33	-1.46	75.8	-0.2	5
August	9.91	6.34	73.7	-0.4	3
September	3.74	-0.39	65.6	0.3	0
October	<u>8.38</u>	<u>6.29</u>	56.5	10.3	<u>0</u>
Totals	44.48	16.20			8

Table 2. Neely-Kinyon Research and Demonstration Farm, Greenfield, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2007.

Month	Rainfall (in.)		Temperature (°F)		Days 90° or above
	2007	Deviation from normal*	2007	Deviation from normal	
March	2.42	0.13	45.8	3.4	0
April	4.57	1.56	48.5	2.0	0
May	7.58	2.71	66.2	4.7	0
June	2.40	-2.13	71.9	0.9	3
July	2.36	-1.43	76.0	0.0	8
August	10.79	7.22	76.8	2.7	6
September	4.52	0.39	67.2	1.9	0
October	<u>5.80</u>	<u>3.71</u>	58.4	12.2	0
Totals	40.44	12.16			17

*Normal rainfall recorded at the U.S. Weather Bureau Station, Greenfield, IA.