2008

Farm and Weather Summary

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Farm and Weather Summary

Abstract
Includes:

Farm Comments

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Disciplines
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Farm and Weather Summary

David Rueber, farm superintendent

Farm Comments

Field Days and Tours. Two field day events were held. A total of 1,040 people visited the farm in 2007. To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 4-H emblem, a corn maze with the 4-H clover was made on the farm.

New Projects. Soybean date of planting, *Phytophthora* soybean micro plots, soybean SDS breeding trial, low linolenic soybean variety trial, corn hybrid by system, date of weed control in corn and soybean, and Select Max rope wick trial.

Crop Season Comments

Corn planting started May 1 and was completed May 11. Harvest began October 3 and was completed October 22 with average yields of 170–210 bushels/acre.

Soybean planting started May 11 and was completed May 17. Harvest began September 20 and was completed October 1, with average yields of 45–65 bushels/acre. The better drained area yielded the most.

Weather Comments

Winter. January continued the trend of the last seven years by being warmer than normal. January was also the third wettest recorded at the farm. February was the third coldest. Warmer than usual March temperatures allowed the ground to be frost free by March 18. Late March rains saturated the soil and had the tiles running full.

Spring. April, May, and June showers kept the tiles running. On April 13 the last spring hard frost came when the temperature fell to 26°F. Every month from May through November was warmer than normal, with October being the second warmest on record.

Summer. July was drier than normal, but August set a new record for precipitation. From August 18–24, 7.55 in. of rain fell. Soybean aphids reached the economical treatment threshold the first week in August and most soybeans were sprayed for control.

Fall. Light frost on September 15 froze corn leaves and leaves of scattered soybean plants. Soybean rust was found on the farm on September 28. Abundant rain in October made it the third wettest on record and recharged the soil profile with moisture. The first fall killing frost occurred on October 28 when the temperature reached 27°F. November's warm, dry weather allowed fieldwork to be completed by November 9. The 4-in. soil temperature stayed below 50°F after October 30 compared with the average date of October 28. Ground was frozen by November 27 compared with the normal of December 11.

Acknowledgements

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Table 1. Northern Research and Demonstration Farm, Kanawha, IA, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2007.

	Rainfall (in.)		Temperature (ºF)		Days
Month	2007	Deviation from normal	2007	Deviation from normal	90º or above
March	3.26	1.27	39.2	4.7	0
April	4.59	1.35	46.5	-1.6	2
May	4.54	.71	65.4	5.3	2
June	4.60	-.21	71.1	1.7	2
July	1.94	-2.01	73.9	1.0	5
August	11.32	7.32	73.1	2.6	1
September	2.14	-1.06	65.3	2.9	0
October	4.27	2.07	55.2	4.7	0
Totals	36.66	9.44			12

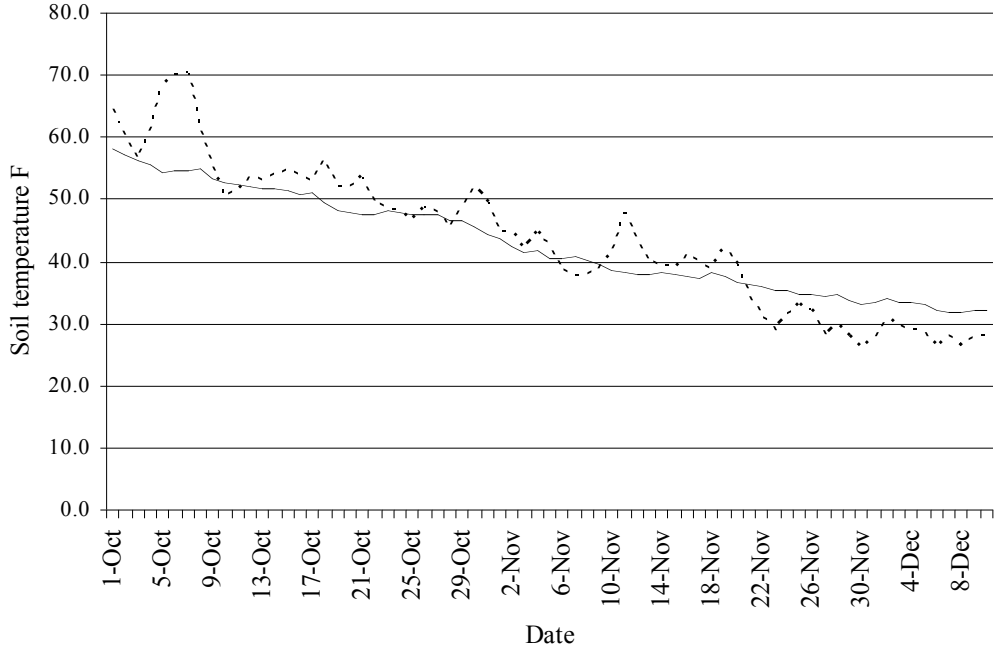

Figure 1. Fall 4-in. soil temperature ºF at the Northern Research Farm.