



Cornell University Cooperative Extension

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*The Ag Report is produced
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*The NYS IPM Weekly
Field Crops Pest Report
is at [http://
blogs.cornell.edu/
ipmwpr/](http://blogs.cornell.edu/ipmwpr/)*

Topics in this issue:

**Tissue Sampling
Soybean Pests
Fertilizing Grass
Oat Crown Rust
Grain Storage
Seed Cleaning**

Capital Area Ag Report June 24, 2021

Announcements

Friday, July 9, 2021 from 1:00 – 3:30 PM, Combine Clinic: Adjusting Conventional and Rotary Combines for Efficiency and Grain Quality, at United Ag & Turf, 2173 NY-203, Chatham, NY. Hosted by United Ag & Turf and Cornell Cooperative Extension, Presenter: Gary Seymour, UA&T, will discuss Combine Maintenance and Adjustments and Settings to efficiently harvest clean grain. *Applicable COVID-19 precautions will be followed.* **Registration is free, but required** by 5:00 PM, July 8, 2021. Space is limited. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/CombineClinic>. For registration assistance: 518-765-3518 or cce-caahp@cornell.edu. For program questions or special accommodations contact Aaron Gabriel, (518)380-1496, adg12@cornell.edu.

July 27, 2021, Pigweeds and Soybean Cyst Nematodes Workshop: Identification and Management

1:00 – 3:15 PM, 4-H Training Center, 556 Middleline Road, **Ballston Spa, NY**

6:00 – 8:15 PM, Pavilion at Copake Park, 230 Mountain View Road, **Copake, NY**

Tall waterhemp and the soybean cyst nematode are two serious and new pests to our Hudson Valley region. Dr. Lynn Sosnoski (Cornell) will bring live plants to identify tall waterhemp and its relatives. She discuss the biology and management of the pigweeds and other problem weeds. Dr. Jaime Cummings (Syngenta) will discuss the biology and management of the soybean cyst nematode. **Two NYSDEC pesticide applicator credits available.** Workshops are free, but pre-registration is required. Register for the **Ballston Spa** session at: <https://tinyurl.com/6h4uuyv9>. Register for the **Copake Park** session at: <https://tinyurl.com/cwcvteyk>. All applicable COVID-19 precautions will be followed. To register by phone contact the Capital Area Agriculture and Horticulture Program for the Copake meeting (cce-caahp@cornell.edu, adg12@cornell.edu, 518-765-3518) or the Central NY Dairy, Field Crops, Livestock Program for the Ballston Spa meeting (ecnydlfc@cornell.edu, 315-866-7920).

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Hemp Grain and Fiber: Production, Pests, Processing, and Policy in NY State, put on by CCE, Central NY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops, Info and registration at <https://cnydfc.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=1617>

Agronomy Notes—Aaron Gabriel

Summer is here and the Climate Prediction Center continues to predict a slightly warmer and wetter July, August, and September. Perhaps we will have good pasture production through the summer and adequate water for crops. Even though we caught a lot of black cutworms in our traps, I saw very minor damage in the field. Do not forget about late-planted corn. Take a peek at it as it goes through the seedling stage. Any seedling problems are hard to figure out after the fact when the corn is well past the damage.

Do not forget to look at the NYS IPM ***Weekly Field Crops Pest Report*** is at <http://blogs.cornell.edu/ipmwpr/>

Also, check for weed escapes in row crops.

Corn: If you are not getting the yields you expect, tissue sampling is one tool to help diagnose nutrient problems. Here is a good article about tissue sampling corn, https://eupdate.agronomy.ksu.edu/article_new/plant-analysis-for-testing-nutrient-levels-in-corn-448-3



Soybeans: It is time to look for soybean aphids and diseases. You should also check roots for nodulation. Healthy nodules will be pink inside. Nodules along the taproot are typically from the inoculant added to the seed and nodules on side roots are from the rhizobia bacteria already in the soil. Here are two resources:

Soybean diseases— <https://fieldcrops.cals.cornell.edu/soybeans/diseases-soybeans/>

Soybean aphids— <https://fieldcrops.cals.cornell.edu/soybeans/insects/soybean-aphid/>

Oats: I am finding crown rust on oats. This rust is easy to identify because of the yellow color of the rust pustules. This foliar disease will increase rapidly when there are moist conditions and moderate temperatures. The two upper leaves need to be kept healthy before heading and the flag leaf needs to be kept healthy after heading. Several common field crop fungicides are registered for crown rust.



Grass Hay: To fertilize or not? Potassium becomes less available as soils dry out, so summer is a good time to apply potassium when a soil test calls for it. Phosphorus can be applied anytime based on soil test results. We apply nitrogen through the season (at the beginning of each cutting cycle) as needed. Our cool-season grasses go at least partially dormant in the heat of summer. The degree of dormancy depends on the species—fescue, orchardgrass, and reed canarygrass go less dormant than timothy, bromegrass, and bluegrass. If adequate rain is predicted (a couple inches over a couple weeks), then the plants will use the nitrogen (50 lbs N per ton of dry matter is needed). Nitrogen fertilizers can lose 50% of the nitrogen if they are not washed into the soil with 1/2”

of rain. Urease inhibitors (Agrotain) will slow that loss (volatilization to ammonia), but not stop it. So, always apply urea (and other nitrogen fertilizers) within a day of a decent rain. Timing is rarely perfect—just do your best.

Grain Storage: Summer is a critical time for managing your grain storage:

- Cover fan openings to prevent hot humid air from drafting into bins
- Keep weeds and grass mowed around facilities to discourage rodents
- Clean empty bins thoroughly and treat with insecticide
- Check all the mechanical and electrical equipment
- Clean your combine of any grain residues from last year and be sure there are no grain weevils or other grain pests hanging out in your combine.

Seed cleaning is a challenge. I came across a USDA seed cleaning publication that can be classified as an “oldie but goodie”. It has a good section on how to use the Clipper type fanning mills, then it describes many other seed cleaning machines. It is an interesting read if you want to learn about seed cleaning, <https://rngr.net/publications/usda-agriculture-handbooks/mechanical-seed-cleaning-and-handling>.