



## **CROP ALERT**

**June 20, 2014**

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### **Post Emergence Weeds**

Many of the early planted corn fields are in the V4 to V6 growth stages across northwestern NY. In some fields weeds have emerged (*Figure 1*) and it's time to get out there, scout your fields, and apply a post emergence herbicide. Yield losses increase dramatically as weeds get over 4-6 inches tall in corn, especially under dry conditions and inadequate nitrogen fertility.

### **Corn Side-dress Nitrogen**

Side-dressing nitrogen has already begun in corn fields. If you are using Greenseeker or OptRx scanners hold off on side-dressing nitrogen until all of your corn in a field is at least at V6 so there is almost full canopy closure. Farmer & research experiences in Ontario, Maryland, & Virginia have found that NDVI scans can be biased by bare soil if these tools are used too earlier. For more information check out the [June 2014 Ag Focus article](#) on this topic. For those of you use using PSNT samples to determine corn side-dress nitrogen, now is the time to start sampling your earlier planted corn fields, see the [May 2014 Ag Focus article](#) for more information. Adapt-N users will start to see side-dress nitrogen recommendations soon, but waiting longer will likely increase model accuracy as long as inputs into the model represent actual field conditions. For more information about Adapt-N see the [June 2014 Ag Focus article](#), these [instructional videos](#), or contact Bianca Moebius-Clune at [bnm5@cornell.edu](mailto:bnm5@cornell.edu).



*Figure 1: Lambsquarters in Corn*

*Source: Bill Verbeten*

### **Too Late to Plant Soybeans? Consider Growing Some Buckwheat**

We are getting to the very end of soybean planting season. When should we call it quits on soybeans? Cornell recommends June 20<sup>th</sup> as the last date for soybean planting. If you are going to push the limits this week, here are some suggestions.

- Plant an early group 2 maturity versus a group 1.
- Push up your plant populations 15 to 20 thousand per acre to compensate for fewer nodes on each plant. We follow a similar schedule for winter wheat in the fall.

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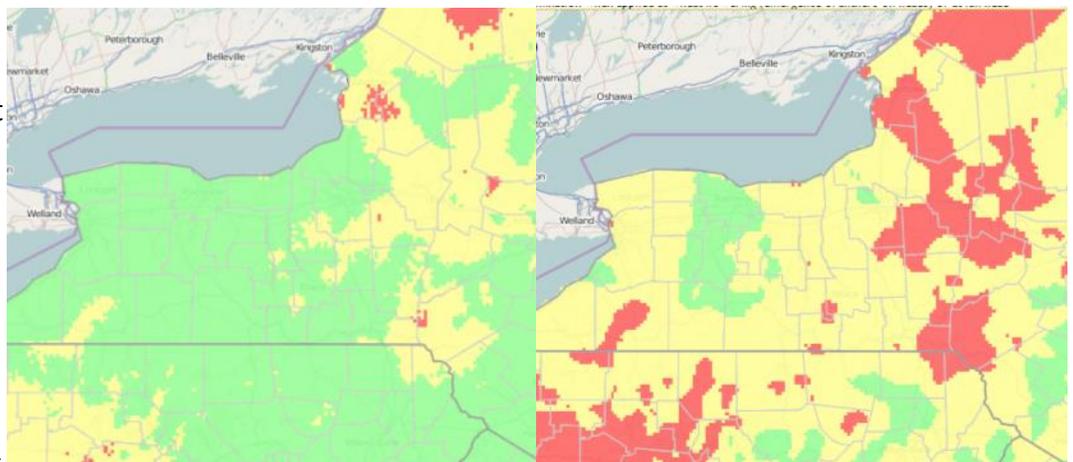
- Plant on narrow rows to maximize sunlight interception and optimize potential yield.
- Start clean and spray weeds earlier than usual to eliminate as much stress as possible.

For soybeans already planted be sure to roll them before the V3 stage (three trifoliolate leaves) otherwise you'll [break the plants in half & reduce yields](#). The main benefit from rolling is better field conditions at harvest.

If you can't get your soybeans in you may consider planting some buckwheat. [Birkett Mills](#) in Penn Yan is still seeking farmers to grow buckwheat in 2014. [Payments to farmers](#) are \$28.50/cwt (conventional) and \$33.50/cwt (organic) in 2014. Answers to frequently asked questions by farmers and links Cornell University buckwheat factsheets are

available on [this webpage](#). If you have some open ground and want to try some buckwheat give Birkett Mills a call at 315-536-2594 to get your seed. Buckwheat can be planted from now until mid-July with yield expectations of 1000 to 2000 lbs./acre.

Figure 2: *Fusarium* Head Blight Risk for Winter Wheat (left) & Spring Wheat (right)



Source: <http://www.wheatcab.psu.edu/>

**Spring Malting Barley & Winter Wheat Fungicides**

Most fields of spring malting barley and the later planted winter wheat fields have reached the pollination stage (Feekes 10.5). Get [Caramba](#) or [Prosoaro](#) sprayed on these fields when they are pollinating to reduce the risk of *Fusarium* head blight development and increased DON levels. Remember fungicide products containing strobilurins should not be applied to headed wheat or barley as they may result in increased levels of DON in grain. Currently the risk of disease development is low for winter grains and medium for spring grains according the risk model in our region, *Figure 2*.

**Cutworm Feeding in Corn**

We have received very few calls on black cutworms feeding on corn, *Figure 3*. Based on when flights were observed in PA and NY, young larvae should be active. Cutworms that were reported this week were around a half inch. This is the size when we want to find them before they do a lot of damage. Once corn gets to the V6 stage, it is too thick for cutworms to chew through and some early planted fields are already at that growth stage. A lot of corn is still at a very vulnerable stage so let's keep scouting!

Figure 3: Cutworm in Corn



Source: *Scott Arliss, Wayne County*