



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Team

CROP ALERT

September 19, 2014

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Corn Silage Harvest

It's that time of the year when dairies are putting everything into getting corn silage out of the fields. Unfortunately we have had terrible dry down conditions across the region the last few weeks. Limited harvests have taken place, mostly north of I90. Many fields are still hanging around 25-30% DM and are beginning to dent. Hopefully everyone dodged the low temperatures last night, unlike our neighbors in northern NY. Once we get through the weekend rains, the next week is forecasted to be in the 70's across the region and it should help many fields. Corn silage typically dries down 0.50 to 0.75% a day with good drying conditions so many fields farther south are probably two weeks away from reaching 35% DM. The old "harvest at half milk line" recommendation can be pretty far off so actually get out there with a chipper and measure the moisture. If you have to put up wet silage, increase your cut TLC to reduce the leachate and be sure to apply a homolactic inoculant to help with silage preservation. Be sure to get down off your equipment and check on how the silage is looking coming out of the chopper and make adjustments, especially to the grain processors, at least once in each field. Good Luck and Be Safe!

Northern Stem Canker in Soybeans

A new soybean disease has been found all across the region this season, Northern Stem Canker (*Figure 1*). For more information check out this [article by Jaime Cummings and Gary Bergstrom on our website](#).

Winter Malting Barley Planting

Winter malting barley planting is in full swing across western NY. If you are still looking for seed, Seedway and Preferred Seed are selling Wintmalt, CY Farms is selling Endeavor, & Edgewood Farms have Medina wheat for wheat beer. See this [handout](#) for more information. Be sure to have a market before you plant, contact one of the [New York State malt houses](#). Our current recommendations for [malting barley production are here](#). Also check out this [Google Map](#) to see how this industry is developing in your neighborhood and contact us if you want to be added to it.

Figure 1: Northern Stem Canker



Source: Jaime Cummings

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Winter Wheat Planting

Winter wheat planting has begun this week, albeit a bit spotty. Some of the early-planted, early-maturity group soybeans have lost their leaves and will come off in the next ten days. Most folks following soybeans will have to wait a little longer than normal for harvest and wheat planting this year. Some reminders on wheat planting: *1 to 1.3 million seeds per acre right now*. Many of our later fields after soybeans will have to jump to 1.8 to 2 million seeds per acre in late October. See Ag Focus article on calculating pounds per acre based in seeds per pound, [2012 Winter Wheat Reminders](#) on page 14. Research from Peter Johnson out of Ontario has shown an average of 7.5 bu/acre increase from using phosphorus in the starter <http://fieldcropnews.com/2012/09/seed-placed-starter-delivers-in-winter-wheat/>. This helps with fall tillering and winter survival.

Soybean Harvest Aids

There have been a lot of questions about herbicide recommendations to help dry down soybeans to get winter wheat planted earlier. There are a couple products we can apply as harvest aids (Table 1), but they are usually only for weed control they do not speed up plant maturation. We can kill the soybean plants earlier but many of the herbicide label restrictions do not allow application until plants are fully mature. See this article out of [Michigan State](#). Gramoxone can't be applied until 65% of the pods are brown or seed moisture is less than 30%. It also has a 15 day preharvest interval. Clarity can't be applied if you plan on planting winter wheat! So while the temptation may be there to pull the trigger on spraying one of these products to finish soybeans, remember what these products are designed to do—kill weeds. Be sure to check the NY label and only apply at the recommended crop maturities if you decide to try one of them.

Table 1: Summary of Soybean Harvest Aid Recommendations.

Product	Crop	Timing	Rate/acre	Pre-harvest
<i>Glyphosate</i>	Roundup Ready® or Roundup Ready® 2 Soybeans	After pods have set and lost all green color.	22 fl oz/A or 0.75 lb a.e./A	14 days
<i>Glyphosate</i>	Soybeans w/o Roundup Ready® traits	After pods have set and lost all green color.	up to 3.3 qt/A by ground or 0.75 to 3.6 lb a.e./A	7 days, see label for grazing, hay, or fodder PHI
<i>Gramoxone Inteon®</i>	Soybeans	At least 65% of pods are a mature brown color when seed moisture is 30% or less.	8-16 fl oz/A + NIS at 0.25 percent v/v .	15 days, do not graze or harvest for hay or fodder
<i>Clarity®</i> Note: Don't apply if planting winter wheat.	Soybeans	After pods have reached a mature brown color and at least 75% leaf drop has occurred.	8-32 fl oz/A	7 days do not feed soybean fodder or hay.
<i>Aim® EW</i>	Soybean	Crop is mature and grain has begun to dry down.	1-2 fl oz/A + 1 percent v/v MSO	3 days

Source: Adapted from [Michigan State University](#)