



A partnership between Cornell University and CCE Associations in these nine counties: Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne and Wyoming.

## **CROP ALERT June 4, 2020**

Mike Stanyard & Jodi Putman, Regional Agronomists, Cornell Cooperative Extension, NWNY Team

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### **Now is the Time to Scout for Black Cutworm Injury to Corn!**

Most of our area has surpassed the 300 degree day mark. Now is the time to really look for missing and cut corn plants as the early larvae will be at the fourth instar. The corn crop is growing fast but will still be vulnerable to cutting up until the V6 stage (6 leaf collars showing). There have been some cut plants found and some fields that had to be sprayed this week. If between 3 to 5% of the plants are missing or cut, spraying with an insecticide is warranted. Remember, BCW are nocturnal feeders and hide below ground during the day. The NWNY team has a good video on how to scout for BCW damage and find the culprit. (<https://vimeo.com/130331770>).

We have not had any reports of armyworm injury yet. Corn that was planted green into a cover crop needs to be scouted. Winter wheat, barley, rye and grass hay fields should also be watched carefully. Look for signs of blackbirds flying into winter grain fields and sitting in tree and on power lines along the field. Guaranteed they are diving in there to feed on armyworms!

	BCW Ontario	BCW Seneca Falls	BCW Castile	BCW Avon	CAW Ontario	CAW Seneca Falls	CAW Castile	CAW Avon
	Wayne	Seneca	Wyoming	Livingston	Wayne	Seneca	Wyoming	Livingston
April 15	0	7	0	0	0	1	3	4
April 22	1	4	0	0	0	4	2	2
April 29	13	23	7	5	5	15	3	4
May 6	3	8	24	25	1	19	10	40
May 13	1	12	17	12	0	24	4	26
May 20	9	17	75	53	3	30	27	63
May 27	6	22	72	57	0	9	23	106
June 3	11	17	80	42	0	0	4	5

### **Degree-Day Accumulation April 29 - June 3, 2020 (Base 50°F)**

Sodus	Varrick	Rochester	Farmington	Elba	Medina	Corwin	Gainsville	Lakeville
Wayne	Seneca	Monroe	Ontario	Genesee	Orleans	Niagara	Wyoming	Livingston
294	339	311	312	292	316	294	246	331

- Plant cutting around 300 Degree Days
- Degree Day data from Network for Environment and Weather Applications, NEWA, <http://newa.cornell.edu/>

### **Winter Wheat Update**

We saw an early planted wheat field (9/17) flowering on June 1. Most fields will follow quickly as heads are beginning to push out of the boot. Time to start thinking about a fungicide application for Fusarium Head Scab ( See Gary Bergstrom’s commentary in last week’s Crop Alert). While most of our region is at low risk (green) for FHS, there are some medium areas scattered about and areas of high risk (red) in western half of Wyoming County and on the west sides of Seneca and Cayuga lakes into Ontario and Seneca Counties. Check the Fusarium Risk Assessment Tool (<http://www.wheatcab.psu.edu/>) as your crop approaches heading and flowering. If you are unsure about what wheat flowering looks like, see this short NWNY Team video, <https://vimeo.com/129585425>.

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### **Cereal Leaf Beetle Larvae are Active in Small Grains**

CLB larvae were easy to find in wheat fields this week. The eggs we saw last week have all hatched and you can see the small shiny black larvae on the leaves. All spring and winter small grains should be scouted this week. Threshold is three eggs and larvae per plant or one larva per flag leaf. They feed on the green epidermis of the leaf and their damage results in a windowpane appearance (see picture). **If you have a field heavily infested with CLB larvae, please call Mike or Jodi. We would like to collect larvae for a survey of natural enemy populations in the region.**

CLB larva feeding on wheat 6/1/20.

Photo: J. Stanyard / CCE Intern NWNY Team



### **Watch Regrowth for Alfalfa Weevil Feeding**

We've been seeing some heavy Alfalfa Weevil (AW) larvae feeding in first cut that is still out there. Hopefully, the string of weather this weekend allows for much of it to get harvested. Those that are fortunate to have first cut in the bunk, need to scout that regrowth. Many of the larvae are still there and getting bigger and eating more. They do 80% of their leaf feeding at the fourth instar. If you feel the alfalfa is standing still and not growing, you better take a closer look. Treatment threshold is 50% tip feeding. Randomly pick 50 stems and count the number with feeding damage. You do not have to actually look for the larvae. If 25 of those 50 stems are positive for damage, you are at 50%.



Weevil feeding damage to alfalfa leaves on the right.  
Photo: M. Stanyard / CCE NWNY Team

### **First Sighting of Stripe Rust in Wheat**

We received a tip that there might be some stripe rust in Seneca County and it was confirmed this week. We have not seen a heavy infestation in about five years and this is a little early for it to appear. This is a crucial time to protect the flag leaf as many fields will be pollinating next week. Consider fungicidal protection with products such as Prosaro, Caramba and Miravis Ace at flowering to protect the flag leaf and Fusarium Head Scab.

Stripe Rust on Wheat 6/1/20.

Photo: M. Stanyard / CCE NWNY Team



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