Cornell Cooperative Extension Southwest Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Program

A partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in these five counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben Counties.

SWNY Field Crop Finds

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Seedcorn Maggot Damage

There have been a few reports throughout the state about seedcorn maggot damage and stand loss in soybeans. If the population is at least 80,000 plants/acre and damage is consistent throughout the field, replant likely won't be necessary. If certain areas have more intense damage, it makes sense to replant in those areas to thicken it up.

Weed Control and Wet Weather

Looking at the weather forecast, it seems like we have a few more rainy days before a stretch of dry weather.

Pheromone Traps

	BCW	BCW	TAW	TAW
	Farmersville	*Lawtons*	*Farmersville*	*Lawtons*
5/12/2025	0	0	0	0
5/19/2025	1	1	3	1
5/27/2025	3	6	1	3

BCW = Black Cutworm **TAW = True Armyworm**

Pheromone trap counts remain relatively low, and have dropped off throughout Western NY. There have been reports of BCW cutting corn plants, even though the general 300 GDD threshold has not yet been reached. Be sure to scout emerged corn for cut plants.

If you are looking to spray some herbicides, here are some reminders from Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie on the effects of flooding and wet weather conditions on weed management

- Wet conditions can be stressful on plants and impact growth, in turn affecting crop-weed competitive interactions.
- Wet soils can delay weed control events, allowing weeds to escape optimum management windows. Remember that making trips over the field when wet will affect soil aeration, crop root system development, and future drainage.
- Stressed weeds may not respond well to postemergence herbicides.
- Rain events can cause fluctuations in soil and air temperature, affecting weed vigor and herbicide performance. If you are making applications between rain events, check the product label for rainfast periods.
- Delayed emergence because of wet conditions can result in injury from residual herbicides.
- Too much rainfall could facilitate leaching of herbicides with higher water solubility and low soil adsorption. This can be more pronounced on coarse/sandy soils. For herbicides that bind tightly to soil, microbial degradation may be altered.
- Flooding can move herbicide-treated soil by erosion. This can result in chemicals moving to off-target sites or becoming concentrated in low spots. These can both result in reduced control and increase injury potential.
- Flooding can result in weed seed movement.
- If weed control has failed, you may feel compelled to act rapidly to manage unwanted vegetation. Don't let haste lead to herbicide drift events.