

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Central New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops

Field Crop Update 21 July 2022

1. Field Observations
2. Growing Degree Days
3. Pest and Disease Monitoring

1. Field Observations

Lots of corn either tasseled over the weekend or is currently going to tassel, which means we will now begin to track GDD from tassel for corn silage harvest forecasting (see section 2). *Up to this point*, GDD accumulations have been anywhere between the 30- and 15-year normals. But obviously this all changed this week, so stay tuned.

The knapweeds are flowering, so in anticipation of the annual knapweed calls/emails, here is a reminder of knapweed species ID and current mgmt options. And remember, biocontrol weevils are *only* available for spotted knapweed (and I've yet to see a single spotted knapweed in our area - only the other half-dozen-or-so species, mostly meadow and brown). To manage knapweed w/o chemicals, **mow them now, as they're beginning to flower**. In grass hayfields, spray the regrowth with **0.625 oz/ac Cimarron Plus + 8 oz/ac Banvel + 16 oz/ac 2,4-D Ester**. As with milkweed, reigning in knapweed is a multi-year process.... (and remember to fertilize your fields!)

C1. Edge of bract is comb-like fringe

- D1. Fringes of bracts short, drawn out and rigid, bract with brown triangular tip

Spotted knapweed
(*Centaurea stoebi*)



- D2. Fringes on bracts as long or longer than the width of the bract, not rigid

- E1. Fringe on bract black

Black knapweed
(*Centaurea nigra*)



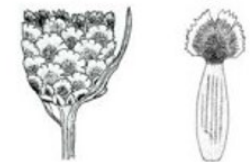
- E2. Fringe on bract tan to brown

Meadow knapweed
(*Centaurea pratensis*)



- C2. Bracts without comblike fringe, having a brown, papery, translucent tip

Brown knapweed
(*Centaurea jacea*)

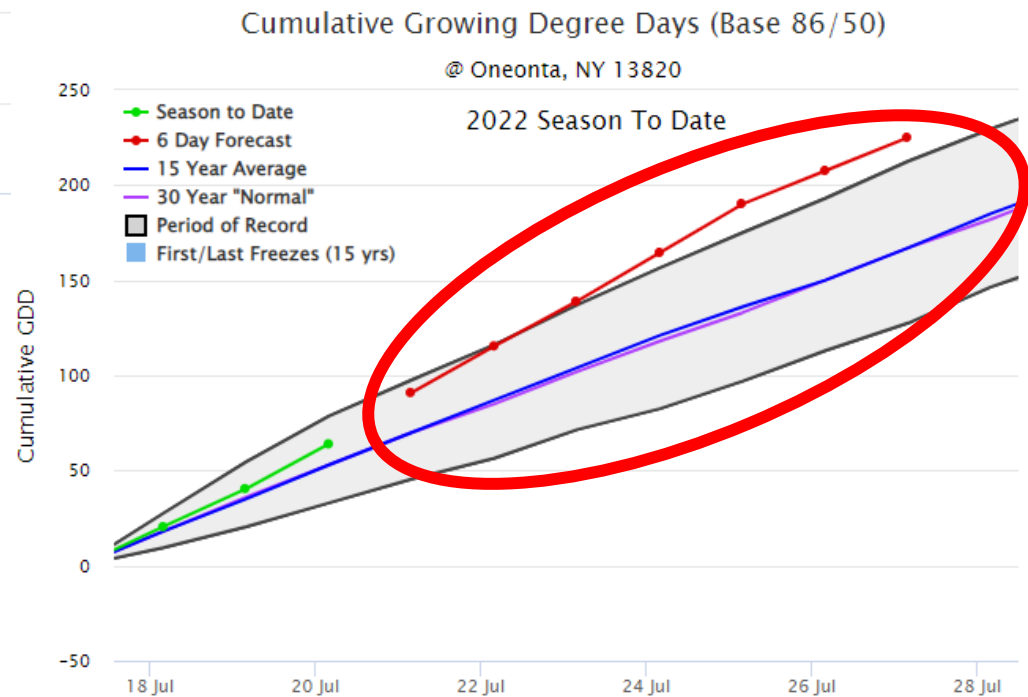
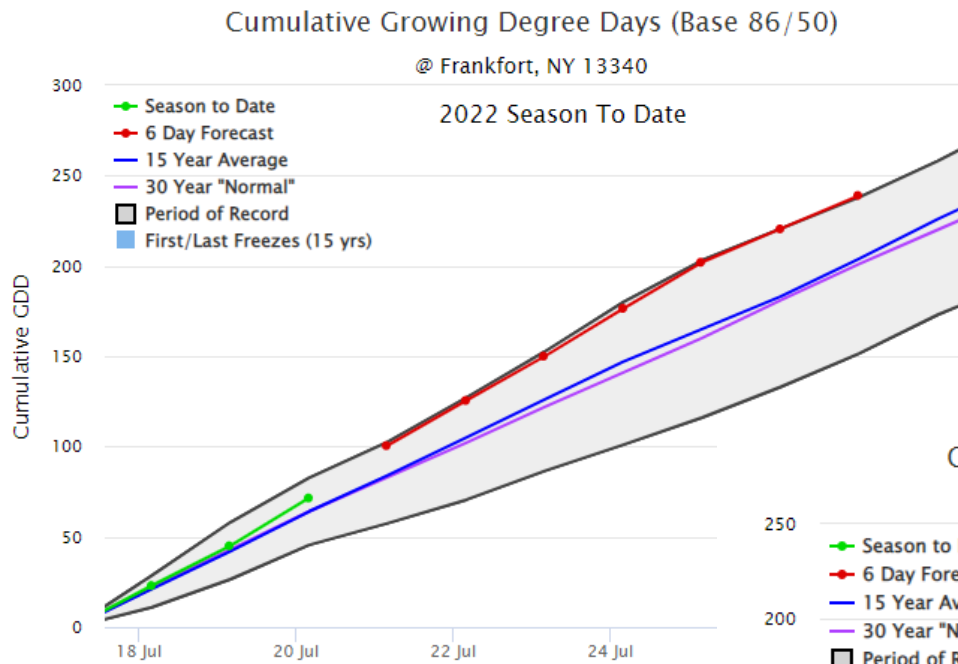


2. Growing Degree Days as of July 20th (See: [Climate Smart Farming Growing Degree Day Calculator](#))

Growing degree days (GDD) are calculated by taking the average daily temperature and subtracting the base temperature for development of a given organism ((High + Low)/2 – base temp = GDD). For corn silage, we are using base 50/86, as corn development starts at 50 degrees F and ceases above 86. **Check your location and planting date:**

As of: 20 July 2022 (Base: 86/50)			Planting Date				Silking Date				
Location	Elevation (ft)	Latitude N	May 10	May 15	May 20	May 25	July 17	July 20	July 23	July 26	July 29
Poland	675	43.23	1052	970	902	829	93				
Canastota	420	43.08	1201	1106	1028	950	104				
Saratoga Springs	365	43.08	1183	1120	1039	995	104				
Frankfort	530	43.03	1141	1082	1005	928	100				
Galway	749	43.02	1125	1039	990	946	71				
St Johnsville	650	43	1034	956	941	842	95				
Fenner	1480	42.97	1057	971	902	835	96				
Fultonville	489	42.95	1118	1035	987	939	99				
Bouckville	1170	42.93	1057	976	908	840	96				
Richfield Springs	1580	42.85	996	947	881	812	93				
Cherry Valley	758	42.81	983	910	871	828	91				
Burlington	1959	42.72	973	899	860	819	91				
Sherburne	1115	42.69	1108	999	954	883	98				
Cobleskill	937	42.68	1112	1030	981	932	98				
Oneonta	1107	42.47	951	878	838	798	91				
Oxford	1499	42.4	1032	951	882	815	94				
Bainbridge	1000	42.3	1062	954	908	838	95				

I'm having *déjà vu* from last year. As soon as the corn tasseled, the temps have skyrocketed. As these forecasts for two CNY locations suggest, look for temps over the next week to be near/above record highs. ~30% above the 15-year normal:



3. Pest and disease monitoring

A. **Western bean cutworm (WBC), true armyworm (TAW) and fall armyworm (FAW) in corn.**

This week, insect numbers remained **low** in most places. At tasseling, the window of risk for WBCW largely closes, and the cornfields where we saw the highest populations (still low by damage-causing standards) were just beginning to tassel:

	Week of:	18 July		
County	Town/Village	WBCW	TAW	FAW
Madison	Oneida	1		0
Herkimer	Poland	0		0
Montgomery	Canajoharie	0	0	
Saratoga	W. Charlton	2		1
Schoharie	Schoharie	0		0
Otsego	Index	0	0	
Chenango	Brisben	22	0	

B. **Potato leafhopper in alfalfa.** I couldn't make it to a few of my usual fields, but those I swept were *still* below threshold. I'm seeing a fair number of aphids, but tons and tons of insect predators that seem to be keeping things in check so far:

County	Town/Village	Date	Ht (in)	PLH/sweep	Threshold
Madison	Sullivan 1	7/19	21	0.02	2*
Madison	Sullivan 2	7/19	20	0	2*
Madison	Oneida		cut		
Chenango	Oxford	7/19	21	0.68	2*
Chenango	Guilford	7/19	19	1.1	2*
	*No action needed within a week of harvest				