

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Central New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops

Field Crop Update September 24, 2021

1. Field Observations
2. Growing Degree Days and Weather Outlook

1. Field Observations

The days are getting shorter, and so is the weekly update....

Lots of silage and hay acreage has been harvested over the last week, so attention is turning to soybean harvest. Some group 0 crops have been harvested in western NY already, and I've seen a lot of acreage in our central region that may be ready soon as well.

And once again, **take note** of problem areas in your soybean fields and let me know if you would like me to sample your field for soybean cyst nematode (**it's free!**). This pest is widespread in NY, and I'm afraid that this year's wet conditions may have allowed them to spread more easily through infested fields. Knowing the level of infestation in your field will help you make sound management decisions, whether it's choosing a resistant variety or rotating out of that field for a few years. Sampling and analysis are free via grant funding from the NY Corn and Soybean Growers Association, though I am limited in the number of samples I can submit. So let me know.

Whether you're an agribusiness that harvests dozens of fields each year or a private farmer that might pitch in with your neighbor's harvest, here's another reminder about the importance of cleaning your combine! As outlined in [this study](#), weed seeds don't always make it to the grain tank - your combine head and feeder house can trap (and transport) ~80% of the weed seeds that collect in either the head, feeder house, stone trap, or the rotor. Check out that link for more details on that study, and [Weed Seed Management at Crop Harvest.pdf \(wiscweeds.info\)](#) for a deeper dive into what weeds may be trapped, and where they will show up.

Have a good rest of the week, and happy, safe harvesting!

Click to see the latest [Oneida County Scouting Report](#), [Northwest NY Crop Alert](#), [Capital Area Ag Report](#), and [New York State IPM Weekly Field Crops Pest Report \(cornell.edu\)](#)

2. Growing Degree Days (GDD) for planting date and silking date ([Climate Smart Farming Growing Degree Day Calculator](#))

For corn silage, we are using base 50/86, as corn development starts at 50F and ceases above 86F. Silage corn needs 750-800 GDD (depending on hybrid maturity) after silking to reach a whole plant DM of 32%. Remember that we can expect to accumulate 20-25 GDD per day, or even up to 30, so this is not a large window. **Under typical late season dry down conditions we can expect the crop to reach 35% DM four to seven days later. Check your crop to see how close you may be to harvest:**

Call your backup and make your plans (you will be at 35% DM anywhere between 5 – 11 days from now)

Gas up the harvester and the trucks (you're chopping in 2 – 8 days)

See you in the field (DM is likely in the optimal 32-38% range)

It's either in the bunk or it's going in the bin (or wait to harvest high-moisture corn) (DM% is likely higher than 38-40% at this point)

As of: <u>22 Sept 2021</u> (Base: 86/50)			Planting Date				Silking Date (750-800 GDD to 32% DM):			
Location	Elevation (ft)	Latitude N	April 26	May 10	May 17	May 24	July 14	July 18	July 22	July 26
Poland	675	43.23	2183	2133	2083	1970	Past	Past	1027	963
Canastota	420	43.08	2516	2450	2393	2266	Past	Past	Past	Past
S'toga Springs	365	43.08	2448	2369	2302	2170	Past	Past	Past	1074
Frankfort	530	43.03	2439	2373	2317	2193	Past	Past	Past	1072
Galway	749	43.02	2320	2250	2187	2059	Past	Past	1080	1009
St Johnsville	650	43	2211	2157	2106	1989	Past	Past	1028	964
Fenner	1480	42.97	2213	2158	2116	2000	Past	Past	1044	980
Fultonville	489	42.95	2348	2283	2222	2100	Past	Past	1093	1023
Bouckville	1170	42.93	2240	2181	2139	2021	Past	Past	1053	987
R'field Springs	1580	42.85	2085	2030	1988	1876	Past	Past	972	912
Cherry Valley	758	42.81	2043	1991	1948	1840	Past	Past	948	890
Burlington	1959	42.72	2013	1958	1919	1811	Past	Past	934	878
Sherburne	1115	42.69	2348	2277	2229	2108	Past	Past	Past	1028
Cobleskill	937	42.68	2267	2202	2148	2029	Past	Past	1054	991
Oneonta	1107	42.47	1947	1888	1850	1744	Past	942	903	852
Oxford	1499	42.4	1994	1934	1894	1791	Past	971	933	880
Bainbridge	1000	42.3	2162	2091	2048	1940	Past	Past	1007	951

Not everyone planted their corn on one of the planting dates or in one of the locations I have listed, so this chart shows the estimated GDD for each location on each potential planting date in between (based on the actual GDD on those four dates). The locations are ordered top-to-bottom from lowest elevation to highest (the number after the location name is the elevation in feet above sea level). So if your farm is near one of the locations on this list but there's a location here that more closely matches your elevation, try that instead. You can find GDDs for your own specific location and planting date using the [Climate Smart Farming CSF Growing Degree Day Calculator](#), but for those who might have more difficulty using that tool, maybe this chart can help.

Estimated total GDD (86/50) by planting date for each location

