If you would like to be added to this mailing list, send a request to Molly Werner at werne022@umn.edu. This newsletter and the advice herein are free. You usually get what you pay for.

**Crop weather**
Rainfall, air and soil temperatures, degree-days, soil moistures, and other current and historical weather data for a little spot about two miles west of Lamberton, MN can be found at the University of Minnesota *Southwest Research and Outreach Center (SWROC)* website: [http://swroc.cfans.umn.edu/WeatherInformation/index.htm](http://swroc.cfans.umn.edu/WeatherInformation/index.htm).

> What happened down there is the wind had changed.  
> Cloud moved in from the north and it started to rain  
> It rained real hard and it rained a real long time  
> Six feet of water in the streets of...  
> Randy Newman 1974

The recent weather has recharged moisture and then some but otherwise had not been good. Heavy rains, flooded streams and backed up tile. Pockets of severe hail from South Dakota along I 90 east to Albert Lea.

As I write this, the SWROC area is a damp island in sea of fields with standing water or to the south, hail. There will be some interesting visuals on the yield monitor maps this fall. Drainage tile can be a
wonderful thing.

If not too wet for too long, the yellow crops should start turning green with drier soils and heat.

There are still some good looking fields in among the waterlogged ones. Growing degree day accumulation are 565 since May 1. Early planted soybeans are at three open trifoliates. Corn is 6 collars and less, most 4-5. The areas oats and spring wheat in have started to head. Alfalfa ranges from uncut to 6-inch re-growth including some growing up around swaths.

**Weather hazards**
Both corn and soybeans are at increased risk for root disease. Common smut of corn incidence is increased by flooding and occasionally we see a disease called crazy top in flooded fields. Goss' blight and wilt of corn can be increased with hail.

In soybeans, expect to see bacterial blight where rain splashes soils onto leaves. As crops stand in water or saturated soils, remember that in addition to disease and nitrogen deficiency, drowning can still be cause of death or precipitating factor.

Mosquitoes are already making their presence known while scouting. Historically, gin and tonic was originally a remedy for malaria and scurvy in the monsoonal tropics.

**True armyworm:**
Rick Gilbertson reported some armyworm infestation in Stearns County corn yesterday. He found small armyworm in weedy corn. Pay attention to these as you are in weedy areas, along field borders or lodged grains and grasses. This part of the world has had a tough spring.

**Small grains**
The constant wind and rain may lead to a banner year for bacterial streak of wheat. Fungicides will not have any effect on this bacterial disease. Researchers at the University of Minnesota are actively researching resistant varieties. We have had some good weather for rust infection and will know soon how much disease inoculum was around. The week's wet weather has prevented an accurate evaluation of small grain pestilence.
**Alfalfa**

Pupation should be started in southern and central MN and damage slowing. **Alfalfa weevil** populations have slowed re-growth in some fields. We have high **variegated cutworm** populations in some alfalfa. 6 larvae/ square foot were present under windrow in one field we examined. This will seriously injure crown buds and hurt re-growth. Small larvae are nearly black. The white or yellow diamonds on the back are diagnostic for this species.

![Image of alfalfa weevil larvae](image)

**Potato leafhopper**

Numbers are very low but over the last week we have been seeing a very few nymphs while sampling soybeans for aphids. With luck, this might be a low year for leafhopper...one can hope.

**Grasshoppers**

Those that have hatched are now struggling with water clogged spiracles(openings for respiration) and disease. Later hatches may be less affected.

**Corn Rootworm**

We may have taken out at least part of the hatch with saturated soils. One can always hope and we will know more in 3-4 weeks.