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.

The SWROC location accumulated 708 Growing Degree Days (base 50°F) from May 1 through June 22 compared to 727 historic average for the period (about 1-2 days behind average). For those of you that planted earlier, 29 GDD were accumulated from April 15 to May 1.

We have had 10.36 inches of precipitation since May 1st; this is well above long-term average of 6.61 inches. It has been a wet June.

There was a significant storm the morning of June 22 over much of SW and SC Minnesota. At the SWROC, 2.59 inches of rain and high winds caused damage to the roof of a building and to area crops. Rain fell at a rapid rate and much ran off creating temporary standing water in low-lying areas.

More problematic was the wind, creating root lodging and brittle snap in some fields. Small grains had started to fill and lodging was common there as well. Wind tattered soybean leaves and yellow soybeans are common with waterlogged soils. Some of the yellowing is from IDC.
Some crop stages and notes for earliest planted/emerged crops in the SWROC area are:

**Corn**  
10 collars for April 15th planted  
Corn growth is rapid and many fields have started to close rows. Corn is recovering its vertical stability in most cases, brittle snapped plants being the exception.

On June 19th, we were able to float a few small corn rootworm larvae from research plots. At least some survived the winter.

Common stalk borer are moving from grasses on field edges and giant ragweed to corn.

Hop vine borer has also been observed to the east.

**Soybean**  
V7 for very early planted  
If you have yellow soybeans, check the root systems for SCN and root diseases as well as IDC tolerance and SCN resistance of the variety. The wind was hard on soybean leaves in some fields and should have been hard on soybean aphids. I wonder if some aphids left their mouthparts behind when they blew off soybean plants?

**Spring wheat**  
beginning grain fill  
The fields I have seen have partially recovered from lodging.

**Oats**  
On SWROC oats, crown rust is present on a susceptible variety. As of the 19th, most varieties looked ok. If oats are a cover crop for under-seeded alfalfa and remain severely lodged, take them off early as oatlage to avoid injuring alfalfa stands.

**Alfalfa**  
Re-growth of second crop  
Potato leafhoppers are at economic levels in some alfalfa fields now. Many fields are close to the second cutting and can avoid an insecticide application, at least temporarily.

Scout potato leafhopper in the third crop. Potato leafhopper adults are very mobile and can re-colonize a field quickly.

**What is it?**  
Some of you may know what these are and some of you might have seen the following insect and plant and wondered what the heck are they?

There is no reason to reply and I'll give the answers in the next issue. There are no cash or other prizes for guessing these correctly but feel free to buy yourself something nice if you think that you know what these are!
# 1 The damage to this corn leaf is caused by an insect that does not have chewing mouthparts.

This insect feeds on many plant species. In corn, it is most often found in reduced or no till fields, particularly after warm winters.

Most insects in this insect family feed on plant juices but some are predators.

You may think these "what is it?" questions stink, but I am not trying to trick anyone.

#2 This is one of the most common foliar diseases of soybean in Minnesota. Symptoms on new leaves often occur after a heavy rainfall. The necrotic angular spots are surrounded by a yellow halo. These spots can enlarge and fall out, leaving the leaf with a tattered appearance. This disease is rarely severe enough to reduce yield. A fungicide application might help stimulate the economy, but it would do nothing to help this disease.

The answer to last week’s specimens
#1 Seed corn maggot adult. Not a problem in many fields but if fresh, decaying organic matter and fly egg laying overlap corn, soybean and some vegetable crops can be significantly damaged.

#2 The perennial weed is field bindweed, Convolvulus arvensis. This weed was introduced from Eurasia. This species could be confused with wild buckwheat, an annual with small nondescript green flowers or with the similar native perennial, hedge bindweed. The characteristics are the basal leaf shape with the outward facing points. A better diagnostic clue, while not very visible on last week's flower buds, is the two small bracts separated on the stem from the base of the flowers in field bindweed. Hedge bindweed has two large bracts at the base of the flower (see the photo below).
During its early years, the SWROC was a research site for field bindweed control. We still have a bunch.

Happy trails,

Bruce Potter

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