

Corn and Grain Sorghum Weekly Update – June 24, 2016

2016 Update No 14

Corn and Grain Sorghum Update – Dr. Jason Kelley (Wheat and Feed Grains Specialist)

Another week of above average temperatures is keeping the corn growth slightly ahead of schedule. According to the Arkansas Agriculture Statistics Service crop report for the week ending June 19th, 70% of the corn had silked, compared to 52% last year and 55% for the 5-year average. Limited rainfall has corn producers irrigating as much as they can to maintain soil moisture. Southern rust of corn was found this week in several locations in southern Arkansas, but at low levels. Dr. Travis Faske has posted a good article on southern rust at: <http://www.arkansas-crops.com/2016/06/24/southern-southeast-arkansas/>. Southern rust has arrived about two weeks earlier than it did last year. Keep in mind that under our growing conditions and our hybrids, it generally takes the corn plant 7-8 weeks to go from tassel to black layer. Delaying a fungicide application until brown silk (~R2) (if no rust is present) may reduce the need for a second application later in the season if southern rust pressure is heavy. A fungicide applied at tassel will not provide season long control.

Much of the early planted grain sorghum is heading or nearing the boot stage, so a rainfall on dryland acres would be very beneficial now. According the Arkansas Agriculture Statistics Service crop progress report for the week ending June 19th, 16% of the grain sorghum had headed, compared to 12% last year and 11% for the 5-year average. Sugarcane aphid reports are becoming more numerous and aphids were discovered in Greene County (bordering the Missouri Bootheel) in Northeast Arkansas this week. This represents the furthest north location that the aphids have been found on grain sorghum this year in Arkansas. Fortunately at this point, aphid numbers are still low, but will likely be building in the coming weeks. I am not aware of any grain sorghum fields that have been treated for sugarcane aphids yet.

Corn and Grain Sorghum Research Verification – Kevin Lawson (Corn & GS Verification Coordinator)

The late planted fields in Clay and Pope Counties received the pre-tassel nitrogen this week followed by irrigations. All the other fields are in reproductive stages. The furrow irrigated fields are receiving irrigations about every five days while the St Francis County field is keeping the pivot running. Pollination has been good in the fields with just a few blanks.

The grain sorghum fields are progressing towards boot. The field in White County will need a rain in the next week as it enters the boot stage.

County	Hybrid	Growth Stage	Heat Units	Comments
Clay	Pioneer 1637YHR	V15	1275	Field received 100 lbs of Urea and an irrigation on June 20. Recommended irrigation on June 27. (Scouted June 23)
Lincoln	DKC 66-87 VT2P	R3	1914	Field was irrigated on June 21. Recommended irrigation on June 26. (Scouted June 24)
Pope	Pioneer 1319HR	V18	1327	Field received 100 lbs of Urea on June 15 followed by an irrigation. Recommended irrigation on June 27. (Scouted June 21)
Prairie	Armor 1555PRO2	R2	1715	Field was irrigated on June 23. Recommended irrigation on June 28. (Scouted June 22)
River Valley	Terral REV 23BHR55	R1	1534	Field was irrigated on June 18. Recommended irrigation on June 23. (Scouted June 21)
St Francis	Pioneer 2089YHR	R2	1762	Field was irrigated on June 22. Recommended to keep pivot running. (Scouted June 22)

County	Hybrid	Growth Stage	Comments
Jefferson	Armor Maverick	V14	Field was irrigated on June 24. (Scouted June 24)
White	Pioneer 83P99	V14	Field is getting close to boot and needs a rain soon. No aphids. (Scouted June 22)

Southeast Arkansas Update – Kevin Norton (Ashley County)

Corn is looking great. Early corn is at brown silk and looking good. Seeing some common rust in a lot of fields. No corn borers caught this week. Irrigation is the main thing going on now.

Central Arkansas Update – Brett Gordon (White County)

Producers are busy keeping corn fields irrigated during hot and dry weather. Hopefully the hot weather will not negatively affect pollination. Most of the corn in White County is at the R1 to R2 growth stage.

Northeast Arkansas Update – Stewart Runsick (Clay County)

It's pretty much same story different week. Pre-tassel nitrogen is finishing up this week on the late and replant corn. Most all the rest of the corn is now in the reproductive stages. The corn and sorghum is being irrigated regularly, no rainfall has been received. I am not catching any corn borer moths in the traps but will continue to monitor through middle of July. Speckling from herbicide drift has been the most common questions on corn this past week.

River Valley Update – Kevin VanPelt (Conway County)

The majority of the corn crop has reached R1. With the temperatures staying in the mid to upper 90's and no rainfall, producers are trying to keep irrigation going.

Heat Units

Heat units are above the 30 year average and are really pushing corn growth.

	Southeast, AR (Dumas)		Central, AR (Des Arc)		Northeast, AR (Jonesboro)		River Valley (Morriton)	
	2016	30 Year	2016	30 Year	2016	30 Year	2016	30 Year
June 18	30.0	27.5	29.5	28.0	28.5	26.5	29.5	26.0
June 19	30.0	28.0	30.0	28.0	30.0	26.5	28.5	26.0
June 20	30.0	28.0	30.0	28.5	30.5	26.5	29.5	26.5
June 21	30.0	28.0	30.5	28.5	32.0	26.5	30.5	26.5
June 22	31.0	28.0	31.5	28.5	32.5	27.0	31.0	26.5
June 23	30.5	28.0	31.0	28.5	31.5	27.0	30.5	26.5
June 24	30.5	28.0	31.0	28.5	32.0	27.0	30.0	27.0
Total for Week	212	196	214	199	217	187	210	185
Total Since March 28	1,877	1,787	1,771	1,718	1,707	1,548	1,722	1,550

Twitter

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Kevin Lawson @ar_cornverify

Row Crop Verification @ar_verification

University of Arkansas Systems Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service Web Pages

Extension Corn Webpage – www.uaex.edu/corn

Extension Grain Sorghum Webpage – www.uaex.edu/grain-sorghum

Row Crop Verification Webpage – www.uaex.edu/verification

Corn & Grain Sorghum Verification Webpage – www.uaex.edu/cgsrvp