

AGLINE

PURDUE UNIVERSITY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE, Fulton County
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COVER CROP MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Fulton SWCD is actively encouraging the planting of cover crops. They have put in-to place tools that can help farmers become successful and will be demonstrating their use on September 23, 2021. (See enclosed flyer).

→ This program has been approved for Pesticide credits. For those of you that need credits, take this opportunity to take advantage of this program. ←



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Thursday
September 23,
2021

5pm - 8pm
Eastern

THE ROSS &
PRISCILLA
BURDGE FARM

**COVER CROP
MANAGEMENT
AND EQUIPMENT
WORKSHOP**
PARP CREDITS
AVAILABLE



LOCATION:

1978 S 875 E
AKRON, IN 46910

DATE / TIME:

Thursday, September 23rd
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Eastern
Check-in Starts 5:00 PM

COST:

None - RSVP for meal
by September 16th

PARP Credit Available- \$10

Sponsors:

- Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI)
- The Pence Group
- Podell Farms - Kevin Podell
- Channel Seed - Steve Kasten
- New Holland Rochester
- Gohn Ag

Join us as we discuss current changes in modern cover crops, equipment, and maintenance

Agenda:

- 5:00 - 5:15 pm Registration and Announcements
- 5:15 - 5:45 Meal catered by Jonesy's Junction, Akron
- 5:45 - 6:15 "Cover Crops and Weed Seeds" Mark Kepler, Extension Educator- Agriculture and Natural Resources, Purdue Cooperative Extension Service-Fulton County
- 6:15 - 6:25 Fulton County SWCD Supervisors and Pulaski County SWCD Supervisors - Introduction and Program Updates
- 6:25 - 7:00 "Cover Crop Equipment and Methods to Manage Soil Health" Jamie Scott
- 7:00 - 7:20 "Benefits of Variety Stated Rye" Paul Pence, The Pence Group
- 7:20 - 7:30 "CCX 9000 Cover Crop Seeder" Dan Snipes, New Holland Rochester
- 7:30 - 8:00 Live Demo- Establishment and Termination of Cover Crops - Seeder and Roller/Crimper

REGISTRATION AND QUESTIONS:

Contact the Fulton County SWCD Office
Phone: (574) 223-3220 Ext. 3
Email: lois.mann@in.nacdnet.net or contact
Pulaski SWCD (574) 946-3243
Email: shelly.werner@in.nacdnet.net

SWCD, NRCS, CCSI & Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service are equal access/equal opportunity institutions. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, prior to the meeting, contact Fulton or Pulaski SWCD.

PRESENTED BY:



Extension



Armyworms

August 30, 2021

“When out of nowhere, Wham.” That could be the story this week for the outbreak of fall armyworms in the area. Alfalfa fields and home lawns seem to be the frequent site visited this year in our area. The moth phase of this insect has been spending time in the southern United States. It gets up in the jet stream with those southern winds, and when a thunderstorm comes along they drop out of the sky, appearing in scattered locations in our area.

What we are experiencing are fall armyworms and not another species called true armyworms. True armyworms are found earlier in the growing season and prefer grasses and corn. The fall armyworm will consume a lot of plants, but definitely has a taste for alfalfa.

The fall armyworm female has the potential to lay over approximately 1000 eggs. They start out as tiny caterpillars and feed for about 14 days. Most of the feeding is done in the last four days after the caterpillar molts into its largest size. They are cold-blooded insects and the recent hot weather has increased their body activity, hence their appetite.

A full-grown caterpillar will be 1.5 inches or more in length. Ones that are an inch in size have a lot of feeding left and there will be others in the area that are even smaller. So, it is hard to know how long they will be around.

Cutting and baling hay will reduce their numbers but the few left can still keep eating plants until the time they march to a new location. That location could be any other plant as they are not particular to what they eat at this stage. In fact, if hungry enough, the big ones will eat the little ones.

Walking into a sunny location it may be hard to estimate how many are around as they will hide during the hot day near the ground but once evening comes, they can be found in full view.

Home lawns in the area are also experiencing damage. Armyworms eating hay are causing financial loss to farmers. Armyworms eating lawn grasses can range from a nuisance to the potential loss of stand. Turf will probably bounce back but some thinning may occur. Right now is a great time to overseed and should your lawn be hit with armyworms, it is your chance to improve it.

Armyworms in hay can be controlled by a variety of insecticides most of which take a pesticide applicator license to apply. Products listed for control in home lawns include Sevin and a variety of other products. Just check their label. Because of their tenancy to come out near dark, that would be an excellent time to spray.

Once they pupate will they fly away? Sort of.

There will be another generation of this insect this year but where it goes to lay its eggs is unknown. So, we could have problems until a frost. They do not survive the winter in this area. So next year will have nothing to do with the numbers we had this year. Frankly, it all depends on the weather, when wham, they fall from the sky.

Mark Kepler, Extension Educator- Agriculture and Natural Resources

Indiana farmland prices hit record high in 2021

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. – The Purdue Farmland Value and Cash Rents Survey suggests farmland prices across Indiana have risen to all-time highs in June of 2021. Statewide, top quality farmland averaged \$9,785 per acre, up 14.1% from the same time last year. The high growth rate for top-quality farmland was closely followed by the growth in average- and poor-quality farmland prices, which increased by 12.5% (to \$8,144) and 12.1% (to \$6,441), respectively. Across all land quality classes, 2021 per-acre farmland prices exceeded the previous records set in 2014.

“A unique combination of economic forces, including net farm income, expected income growth, crop and livestock prices, interest rates, exports, inflation, alternative investments, U.S. policy, and farmers’ liquidity, all played a major factor in the price increase we’re experiencing,” said Todd H. Kuethe, Purdue associate professor and the Schrader Endowed Chair in Farmland Economics and survey author.

That’s rare, he said.

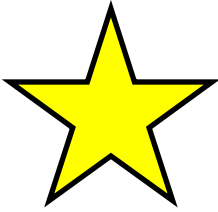
“Normally we’ll see positive price pressure from one or two market forces; however, this June, survey respondents indicated that all 10 forces we asked them about were putting upward pressure on land values,” he said.

Statewide cash rental rates increased across all land quality classes in 2021. Average rental rates increased by 3.9% for top-quality land, from \$259 to \$269 per acre. The cash rental rates for average- and poor-quality lands both increased by 4.6% to \$227 and \$183, respectively. At the regional level, the largest rental rate increases for top- and average-quality land were both in the Southeast region (11.5% and 6.4%), and the largest rental rate increases for poor-quality land were in the North region (5.5%). Across all three land-quality classes, the highest per-acre cash rent was observed in the West Central region.

Rent as a share of June land value decreased slightly in 2021, suggesting that cash rental rates appreciated slower than farmland prices. Some portion of the difference in appreciation rates between farmland values and cash rents may reflect changes in expectations between fall 2020, when 2021 rents were negotiated, and the 2021 growing season.

For more in-depth analysis on the survey, the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture will host a free webinar from 12:30-1:30 p.m. ET Aug. 20. Join Purdue agricultural economists Kuethe, James Mintert and Michael Langemeier as they break down the Purdue Farmland Values Survey and USDA Land Values report, discuss marketing strategies for 2021 corn and soybean crops, and make projections for 2022 corn and soybean returns. Register for free.

The department of agricultural economics conducts the Purdue Farmland Value and Cash Rent Survey each June and publishes it in the Purdue Agricultural Economics Report. The survey is produced through the cooperation of numerous professionals knowledgeable of Indiana’s farmland market. These professionals provided an estimate of the market value for bare-, poor-, average-, and top-quality farmland in last December and June, and a forecast value for this coming December.



Here is a table from that publication on Cash rents:

Area	Land Class	Corn bu/A	Rent/Acre		Change	Rent/bu. of corn		Rent as % of June Land Value	
			2020	2021	20-21	2020	2021	2020	2021
			\$/A	\$/A	%	\$/bu.	\$/bu.	%	%
North	Top	214	272	273	0.4%	1.31	1.28	3.2%	3.0%
	Average	178	219	222	1.4%	1.22	1.25	3.3%	3.1%
	Poor	146	165	174	5.5%	1.10	1.19	3.4%	3.1%
Northeast	Top	205	242	242	0.0%	1.20	1.18	2.8%	2.6%
	Average	178	205	211	2.9%	1.16	1.19	2.7%	2.6%
	Poor	152	174	181	4.0%	1.14	1.19	2.7%	2.7%
W. Central	Top	217	293	302	3.1%	1.35	1.39	3.1%	2.8%
	Average	193	252	262	4.0%	1.33	1.36	3.1%	2.8%
	Poor	165	212	222	4.7%	1.30	1.35	3.2%	2.8%
Central	Top	212	261	272	4.2%	1.24	1.28	3.0%	2.7%
	Average	186	222	235	5.9%	1.21	1.26	2.9%	2.6%
	Poor	160	185	192	3.8%	1.18	1.20	3.0%	2.6%
Southwest	Top	219	269	288	7.1%	1.27	1.32	2.9%	2.5%
	Average	180	216	225	4.2%	1.21	1.25	3.0%	2.6%
	Poor	145	161	164	1.9%	1.09	1.13	3.2%	2.7%
Southeast	Top	198	200	223	11.5%	1.06	1.13	3.3%	3.3%
	Average	167	171	182	6.4%	1.06	1.09	3.5%	3.6%
	Poor	133	131	133	1.5%	0.99	1.00	3.6%	3.6%
Indiana	Top	212	259	269	3.9%	1.27	1.27	3.0%	2.7%
	Average	182	217	227	4.6%	1.24	1.25	3.0%	2.8%
	Poor	153	175	183	4.6%	1.19	1.20	3.0%	2.8%



Planes

Aug. 23, 2021

There have been a lot of low-flying planes buzzing around our farm fields this past year. More so than in the past, and for several good reasons.

In general, crops in our area look very good. At the same time, prices for corn are higher than in recent years. That makes protecting the crop with a fungicide from disease even more important. Couple that with two destructive diseases that have recently come on the scene and the planes and helicopters are in high demand this year.

A disease called tar spot was first confirmed as being present in the United States in 2015 on field corn in our area of Indiana. That year, local counties and some Illinois counties just west of us were the only places it was found.

Leaves with tar spots have small, raised black and circular spots. It starts out as a few on a leaf and then can quickly develop to the point that there are so many, the leaf begins to die. In 2018, a yield-reducing early in the season epidemic of tar spots occurred in northern Indiana and in the surrounding states. Fields in the most severely affected regions in 2018 reached 100% disease incidence and over 50% severity and yield losses of up to 60 bushels per acre. At the current fall price of corn, that would be around \$300 per acre.

This year tar spot has taken advantage of the early wet weather to get established and it is present throughout our area.

Another disease, southern rust has been documented this year in Fulton County. This is another disease that can easily reduce yields by 20 bushels per acre. It can be seen as rusty-looking dots on the leaf. There is also common rust that is not as severe. So just seeing red dots doesn't mean you have an accurate diagnosis.

Add to that the normal fungus diseases of gray leaf spot, northern corn leaf blight, and northern corn leaf spot and you can see why a corn grower may get nervous about his crop and hence the aerial spraying.

Diseases are not the only reason for planes flying. Soon they will be dropping seeds for winter cover crops like rye, ryegrass, clover, radish, and other seeds into fields. These will give them enough time to established before winter to add organic material and nutrients to next year's crop as well as reduce fall and winter land erosion. Cover crops are gaining in acceptability through the area and a green field in the winter is a good site to see.

Mark Kepler, Extension Educator- Agriculture and Natural Resources