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### Columbia County Corn Growers Crop Scouting Clinic

July 11, 2019 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Ben Grove Farm, 2441 Bristol Rd, Columbus (some GPS units recognize it as a Sun Prairie address)

Bryan Jensen, UW-Extension Entomologist will be on-hand to help us understand which insects to watch out for this summer. Which insects are here now, and what to watch out for in the near future. With the challenges corn growers have already faced this year, there is little room for error.

There is no charge to attend this event, just please register with Jennifer Evans at 608-742-9687 or email her at [Jennifer.evans@co.columbia.wi.us](mailto:Jennifer.evans@co.columbia.wi.us)

### Farmer to Farmer, Hay, Forage and Corn List

<https://farmertofarmer.extension.wisc.edu/>

The Farmer to Farmer Hay, Forage and Corn List puts Wisconsin farmers in touch with one another for the purpose of buying and/or selling corn and forage. The farmer to farmer list is free of charge to both buyers and sellers. Users can list or search for hay, alfalfa haylage, corn silage, high moisture corn, corn grain, or other forages (i.e., oats, peas, or Sorghum). UW-Cooperative Extension assumes no responsibility in the transaction of buying or selling the items listed on this web site. All transactions and negotiations are handled directly between buyers and sellers.

### Using Corn and Soybean as Cover Crops on Prevented Planted Acres in Wisconsin During 2019

June 25, 2019

RE: Using Corn and Soybean as cover crops on Prevented Planted acres in Wisconsin during 2019

To whom it may concern:

For a crop to be considered a cover crop RMA states that "For crop insurance purposes, a cover crop is a crop generally recognized by agricultural experts as agronomically sound for the area for erosion control or other purposes related to conservation or soil improvement." Soybean and corn both meet this requirement. However please remember that BMP's must be followed to meet this requirement. Every producer who declares Prevent Planting must get approval from his or her crop insurance agent before any Prevent Planting management plan is implemented.

Farmers taking the full prevented plant indemnity should note that they cannot ever harvest the cover crop for grain or seed. RMA rules allow, only after September 1, grazing and harvest as hay (for bedding or feed) and now for silage, haylage or baleage. If a farmer wants to harvest it as grain or seed, then they should declare it as an alternative crop and only collect the partial (35%) prevented plant indemnity."

Briefly the goal of a cover crop is to protect the soil from erosion (wind and water), to improve water quality by capturing nutrients, to build organic matter, and to suppress weeds. Agronomic guidance regarding the use of corn and soybean as a cover crop include:

## **CORN**

Seed: Conventional hybrids and open-pollinated varieties are less expensive than bioengineered hybrids. Neither seed nor grain from bio-engineered corn hybrids can be used as cover crop seed. Upon purchase of bio-engineered hybrids, farmers sign a contract that: 1) limits usage of grain to specific end product channels, 2) restricts ownership of bio-engineered traits, and 3) requires a refuge (stewardship). There has been some discussion of using the F2 (grain) of 2018 production ("bin-run" seed/grain). A 10-20% grain yield drag would be expected for F2 seed, however, little grain yield is expected anyway with July planting dates. Using bin-run grain as seed might be possible for conventional hybrids and open-pollinated varieties. Check seed labels and grower agreements to make sure. Again, it is illegal to use bio-engineered hybrids. For specifics about contracts for bio-engineered hybrids, see <https://www.agcelerate.com/Home>.

Performing any ONE of the following practices, if different from the current on-farm commercial production practice, indicates that the objective of growing corn for grain has changed to to the objective of growing corn as a cover crop.

Plant population and seed costs: Higher populations lead to faster ground cover and helps with weed suppression. Minimum populations upwards of 35,000 plants/A are needed for corn grown as a cover crop. However, seed costs can be prohibitive for higher populations. Agriculture Institute UW-Madison Division of Extension 432 North Lake Street Room 633 Madison WI 53706 Phone: (608) 263-9260 Dial 711 for Wisconsin relay <https://extension.wisc.edu/> An AA/EEO employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX and ADA requirements.

Narrow row spacing: Corn is a row crop. Using a narrower row corn planter (< 30-inches), twin-row planter, or a grain drill can lead to faster ground cover by the corn canopy and weed suppression. Criss-crossed rows can lead to quicker canopy cover.

Crop rotation: Rotating crops helps with interrupting pest cycles and promotes early growth and quicker canopy coverage. The choice of the cover crop this year should be based upon the subsequent crop intended next year. For example, if soybean is planned for the field next year then corn (or some grass crop) should be the cover crop this year.

Planting into residue: Seeding into fields with > 30% residue provides some ground cover between planting and canopy establishment.

Pesticides: Herbicides should be used to help with weed control. Use care about pre-grazing and/or pre-harvest restrictions after September 1.

Nitrogen: The most important nitrogen applied to corn is the first 40 to 60 lb N/A. Even this may not be needed if N credits can be taken. Reducing N rate would improve cost of production, especially since little grain is expected.

July plantings rarely result in corn grain production in Wisconsin. A killing frost usually occurs during September or early October. If grain is produced and kernels develop beyond the milk to dough (R<sub>3</sub>-R<sub>4</sub>) stage then the crop should be cut with a haybine.

## SOYBEAN

In a late planted, soybean cover crop situation, plant a minimum of 150,000 seeds per acre and strive to plant in narrow row spacings (<30 inches). This recommendation is intended to minimize soil erosion, maximize ground cover and weed suppression as well as provide adequate N fixation. I do however understand if a farm operation is limited by equipment restrictions (e.g. they only have a 30 inch row planter) I would not preclude them from being eligible to plant soybean as a cover crop. The next consideration is cost. Normally the cost of soybean seed to be used as a cover crop on a per acre basis would be cost prohibitive; however since soybean seed is usually not saved from year to year and treated seed is often devitalized it is often offered at a deep discount late in the year so shop around. Frankly with only 60% of the WI crop planted there should be some reasonably priced seed to be used as cover crops.

Sincerely Joseph G. Lauer  
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Shawn P. Conley

## Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest For June 24, 2019

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/forage/files/2019/06/06-24-2019.pdf>

## WI Crop Manager – June 27, 2019

[https://ipcm.wisc.edu/download/wcm-pdf/WCM2019/WCM2019\\_12.pdf](https://ipcm.wisc.edu/download/wcm-pdf/WCM2019/WCM2019_12.pdf)

Insects update

Guidance when using corn as a cover crop

Full or late season cover crop options on prevented plant acres

Crop protection network to offer certified crop advisor continuing education credits

Summer annual cover crop considerations for prevented planting

Wisconsin Tar Spot Update – June 25, 19

## Waterhemp Management Challenge: Plot Tour



Questions?  
**Dan Smith**  
dhsmith@wisc.edu  
(608) 219-5170

According to our recent survey, waterhemp has become the most concerning weed species in Wisconsin row crop production. Glyphosate-resistant waterhemp has been confirmed in 25 counties, and PPO-resistant waterhemp has been confirmed in 4 counties.

To learn more about waterhemp management in soybean, join us for a tour of our challenge plots that showcase comparisons of 29 PRE-emergence soybean herbicides, the value of no-till and cover crops for waterhemp suppression, and a systems approach for weed control in Xtend soybean. Additionally, waterhemp management in corn will be discussed and shown through the use of residual herbicide, no-till, and cover crops.

# WATERHEMP MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE Plot Tour

## Wednesday, July 10, 2019

### Lancaster Ag Research Station

7396 State Rd 35 & 81, Lancaster WI 53813

Registration, coffee and donuts at 8:30 am  
**Tour starts at 9 am** (concludes by noon, sandwiches served!)

Register by  
July 1<sup>st</sup>  
Scan to  
register!



or visit:  
<https://go.wisc.edu/281qsg>



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## Wisconsin Pest Bulletin

Now available at: <http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/pb/index.jsp>

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**LOOKING AHEAD:** Japanese Beetle, European Corn Borer, Spotted Wing Drosophila, Soybean Aphid, Potato Leafhopper, True Armyworm, Corn Rootworm, Lily Leaf Beetle, Apple Maggot

**FORAGES & GRAINS:** Potato Leafhopper, Alfalfa Weevil, Plant Bug, Pea Aphid

**CORN:** True Armyworm, European Corn Borer, Western Bean Cutworm, Corn Rootworm, Granulate Cutworm, Stalk Borer, Black Cutworm

**SOYBEANS:** Soybean Aphid, Rose Chafer, Sand Chafer, Soybean Defoliators

**FRUITS:** Apple Maggot, Black Stem Borer, Codling Moth, San Jose Scale, Potato Leafhopper, Dogwood Borer, Japanese Beetle

**VEGETABLES:** Potato Leafhopper, Squash Vine Borer, Colorado Potato Beetle, Red Turnip Beetle, Cutworms, Cabbage Caterpillars, Striped Cucumber Beetle

**NURSERY & FOREST:** Lily Leaf Beetle, Pseudomonas Bacterial Blight, Invasive Ribbon Grass, Aphids, Gypsy Moth

### DEGREE DAYS:

Krista Hamilton

Entomologist | Bureau of Plant Industry | Division of Agricultural Resource Management

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

(608) 220-7378 Mobile | (866) 440-7523 Pest Hotline

### Weekly Emails Online!

<http://columbia.uwex.edu/ag-calendar-and-deadlines/>

The Ag Reporter "Snapshot" is presented to you each week by George Koepp, Columbia County UW-Extension Agriculture Agent. If you have any questions about these articles or need other ag-related information, please contact George at 608-742-9682 or by email [george.koepp@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:george.koepp@ces.uwex.edu).