

Farm and Weather Summary

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Farm Comments

Developments: A wetland demonstration area was established on the SW 80. A 1 1/4 acre vineyard containing 405 vines was planted north of the headquarters building.

Neely-Kinyon Farm. New tile line interceptors were installed at three locations on the farm. The Orient–Macksburg FFA will be taking water quality samples.

Field Days and Tours: The farms held 28 events, with a total of 3,098 attending the various field days and individual tours.

New Projects: IPM Muskmelon Trial, Mark Gleason; Twin Row vs. 30" Corn, Clarke McGrath and Clint Lambotte; Grape Cultivar Management Study, Paul Domoto; Cuphea Study, Frank Forcella; Triticale Variety Yield Trial, Jean-Luc Jannink; Liquid Manure Rate Study, Randy Killorn; Long-term Tillage Carbon Study, Mahdi Al-Kaisi.

Livestock: Mild midwinter weather resulted in good gains for feedlot cattle. Grass pastures provided good spring grazing but dried up by mid-August. Dust was a problem in feedlots during the summer.

Neely-Kinyon Farm. Work continued on season-long grazing systems including grazing of standing corn. The dairy heifer development project with the ISU Dairy Farm continued.

Crop Season Comments

Corn planting started May 3 and was completed May 8. Harvest began September 23 and was completed October 16 with average yields of 127 bushels/acre (rotated corn) and 90 bushels/acre (continuous corn).

Soybean planting started May 9 and was completed May 19. Harvest began September 30 and was completed October 15 with average yields of 37 bushels/acre (no-till) and 26 bushels/acre (tilled).

Neely-Kinyon Farm. Corn planting started May 14 and was completed May 28. Harvest began October 17 and was completed October 19 with average yields of 148.5 bushels/acre. Soybean planting started May 21 and was completed May 30. Harvest began October 16 and was completed October 17 with average yields of 37.9 bushels/acre.

Weather Comments

Winter 2001-2002: Winter temperatures were very mild and the ground was frost free by mid-March. The soil moisture profile was measured to be 2/3 full in late March.

Spring 2002: Cool but dry conditions allowed for timely planting of row crops but emergence and early season growth were slow due to cool soil temperatures.

Summer 2002: The weather turned very hot and dry all summer. Moisture stress in corn was evident by the end of July. Only three rainfall events occurred during the June–July period.

Fall 2002: Fall temperatures and precipitation were near normal. Over 30% of the season's rainfall occurred after corn and soybeans had reached maturity. Yields were well below normal.

Table 1. Armstrong Research and Demonstration Farm, Lewis, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2002.

Month	Rainfall (inches)		Temperature (°F)		Days 90° or above
	2002	Deviation from normal*	2002	Deviation from normal*	
March	1.02	-1.27	32.1	-10.3	0
April	2.66	-0.35	50.8	0.3	0
May	3.74	-1.13	58.7	-2.9	2
June	1.33	-3.20	74.8	3.8	9
July	2.03	-1.76	77.6	1.6	12
August	3.23	-0.34	72.9	-1.2	3
September	1.50	-2.63	67.2	1.9	4
October	3.90	1.81	46.0	-0.2	0
Totals	19.41	-8.87			30

*Normal rainfall and temperatures recorded at US Weather Bureau Station, Atlantic, Iowa.

Table 2. Neely-Kinyon Research and Demonstration Farm, Greenfield, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2002.

Month	Rainfall (inches)		Temperature (°F)		Days 90° or above
	2002	Deviation from normal*	2002	Deviation from normal*	
March	0.90	-1.36	35.8	-2.8	0
April	3.21	-0.52	51.7	0.7	0
May	3.97	-0.34	59.6	-2.0	0
June	1.82	-2.46	74.3	3.5	5
July	3.86	-0.79	78.1	3.3	16
August	3.67	-0.02	73.2	0.2	5
September	1.53	-2.41	68.6	3.4	4
October	3.47	0.96	48.6	-5.0	0
Totals	22.43	-9.94			30

*Normal rainfall and temperatures recorded at US Weather Bureau Station, Greenfield, Iowa.