

Farm and Weather Summary Northwest Research Farms

David Haden, farm superintendent

Farm Comments

Field Days and Tours. There were seven events held at the Northwest Farms, Sutherland and Doon. A total of 624 people attended the field days and tours.

New Projects. Food-grade soybean study, Tom Olsen; Western bean cutworm study, Marlin Rice; Flax management, Mary Wiedenhoef; Fungicide trial, Paul Kassel; Phosphorus management, no-till, Antonio Mallarino; Natural enemy effect on soybean aphids, Matt O'Neal; Soybean rust sentinel plots, X.B. Yang.

Crop Season Comments

Corn planting began on April 28 and was completed on May 10. Harvest began on October 11 and was completed October 20, with average yields of 184 bushels/acre.

Soybean planting started May 17 and was completed June 7. Harvest began September on 29 and was completed on October 7, with average yields of 59 bushels/acre.

Weather Comments

Winter 2004–2005. Another mild winter! Remember, normal is often the average of extremes. We are due for some severe winter weather. By spring our soil moisture profile was full.

Spring 2005. Fieldwork began on March 25. We started planting oats on March 29. April's average temperature was 5.3 degrees above normal. This was the highest average for April since 8.4 degrees above normal in 1987. Rains in mid-April delayed corn planting until April 28.

Summer 2005. With timely planting and good growing conditions, crop progress was excellent. July and August rainfalls were slightly below normal with slightly above normal temperatures. During this time humidity was high and little or no moisture stress was observed.

Fall 2005. Crops matured rapidly and harvest began ahead of the five-year average. Yields were better than expected. Some producers even had record soybean yields. Corn was very dry with some grain coming directly from the field at nearly 15% moisture.

Acknowledgments

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Table 1. Northwest Research and Demonstration Farm, Sutherland, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2005.

Month	Rainfall (in.)		Temperature (°F)		Days 90° or above
	2005	Deviation from normal	2005	Deviation from normal	
March	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
April	3.01	0.51	51.4	5.3	0
May	3.46	-0.29	57.3	-1.8	0
June	5.72	1.27	71.1	2.3	3
July	2.93	-0.54	73.2	0.1	2
August	3.02	-0.75	70.0	-2.1	2
September	6.95	3.81	67.0	5.9	5
October	1.58	-0.50	52.2	3.4	0
Totals	26.67	3.51		13.1	12

NA=Not available.