

Farm and Weather Summary

Northwest Research and Demonstration Farm

Ryan Rusk, interim farm superintendent

Farm Comments

Developments. To start the new surface runoff study, the infrastructure was completed in the summer of 2006. Manure, fertilizer, and tillage treatments were applied in fall of 2006 in preparation for the 2007 growing season. Data collection of surface water runoff was initiated in early May of 2007. A total of 10 runoff events were collected throughout the growing season.

Field Days and Tours. There were seven events held by the Northwest Research Farms, Sutherland and Doon. A total of 580 people attended field days and other programs.

New Projects. Soybean planting date, Palle Pedersen; Soybean fungicide × insecticide study, Paul Kassel; Soybean aphid management in drilled vs. 30-in. row beans, Matt O'Neal.

Crop Season Comments

Corn planting began April 17 and was completed May 21. Harvest began October 9 and was completed November 14. Corn yields following soybeans averaged 175 bushels/acre and continuous corn yielded 151 bushels/acre.

Soybean planting started May 14 and was completed May 22. Harvest began September 21 and was completed October 6 with average yields of 62 bushels/acre.

Weather Comments

Spring. Rainfall in early April and snow on April 11 delayed fieldwork and oat planting until April 16. Above average rainfall in both April and early May caused a few delays in planting, but a majority of the crops were

planted by May 20. Above average temperatures in late April and early May allowed early planted corn to get off to a rapid start.

Summer. The months of June and July were extremely dry. June rainfall of 1.44 in. was 3.01 in. below normal and the month of July was 1.02 below normal, but 1.60 in. of that rain was received at the end of the month on July 27. Near or slightly below normal temperatures alleviated some drought stress, but crops planted into wet seedbeds and on lighter soils were impacted by the dry weather. Plentiful rainfall in August improved crop conditions. Soybean aphids were above treatment thresholds in the area and most of the soybean acres were sprayed in late July and early August.

Fall. September and October were nearly 7 in. above normal for rainfall, which caused harvest delays, but replenished soil moisture levels for the 2008 growing season. Corn yields ranged widely due to the dry summer and different management practices. Much of the corn grain was harvested out of the field at moistures between 14% and 17%. Soybean yields were better than expected.

Acknowledgements

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Table 1. Northwest Research and Demonstration Farm, Sutherland, monthly rainfall and average temperatures for 2007.

Month	Rainfall (in.)		Temperature (°F)		Days 90° or above
	2007	Deviation from normal	2007	Deviation from normal	
March	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
April	4.26	1.76	45.1	-1.0	2
May	5.77	2.02	63.1	4.0	0
June	1.44	-3.01	69.7	0.9	1
July	2.45	-1.02	72.7	-0.4	3
August	8.27	4.50	71.4	-0.7	0
September	5.63	2.49	62.4	1.3	0
October	<u>6.52</u>	<u>4.44</u>	53.6	4.8	<u>0</u>
Totals	34.34	11.18			6

NA = not available.