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INSECT, PLANT DISEASE, & WEED SCIENCE NEWS [No. 92-25] [November 6, 1992]

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Insect Science Plant Disease Weed Science

No. 92-25 November 6, 1992

NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION • INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Plant Disease

Yield loss could be significant

Wheat streak mosaic found in western Nebraska

Wheat streak mosaic was detected in fields in the southern Nebraska Panhandle in late September. Laboratory examination confirmed the presence of the wheat streak mosaic virus in both fall planted wheat and in secondary volunteer wheat. Since early October, more than a dozen samples of fall planted wheat have been confirmed as having wheat streak mosaic. Similar reports are being received from northeast Colorado.

This particular disease outbreak is unusual because: 1) rarely

do symptoms occur in the fall on the new wheat crop; and 2) the fields are uniformly infected indicating that the infection is not just moving in from the field margins. Surveys in August and September revealed an abundance of weeds in stubble fields. In many of these fields, tillage resulted in only marginal weed control and produced a secondary volunteer wheat crop. It is highly possible that the grassy weeds and secondary volunteer wheat provided the needed green bridge for the wheat

curl mite to live on between summer harvest and fall planting.

Fields showing symptoms of wheat streak mosaic are likely to suffer significant yield loss. In considering options, farmers should talk with their local crop insurance or ASCS official. When considering crop alternatives, spring wheat or late seeded winter wheat are not good options, and oats are questionable. Probably the best alternatives are proso millet or sunflowers.

John E. Watkins Extension Plant Pathologist

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IPW News to get new name and expanded crop focus in 1993

Crop Watch will be the new name for this newsletter in 1993. Of course, it will continue to carry the same indepth and timely coverage of insect, plant disease and weed problems, including scouting and management suggestions, pesticide updates, and research results from your favorite Extension specialists.

In addition, next year's issues will regularly include stories related to weather/crop concerns, crop water use, soil moisture levels, crop production updates, equipment adjustments, and variety updates, with special focus sections on specific crops and production management strategies. All this will be included at the same subscription price as last year: \$25.

Don't miss an issue. Use the subscription form on page 5 and order today.





Reader survey

We sent our reader survey later than usual this year, and unfortunately it arrived when many of you were in the middle of harvest. On pages 7 and 8 you'll find another copy of the survey. If you didn't fill out the first one, please take a few minutes now. The results will help us better meet your needs.

DuPont leaving ornamentals market

DuPont Agricultural Products has announced that it will no longer manufacture products for the U.S. ornamentals market. Over the next year, ornamentals will be deleted from product labels, including benomyl (Benlate, Tersan 1991), methomyl (Lannate), oxamyl (Vydate), and fenbutatin oxide (Vendex). Pesticide products labeled for ornamentals may continue to be used for ornamentals until supplies are exhausted.

DuPont believes the potential cost to stay in the ornamentals market will exceed potential revenue.

Larry Schulze Extension Pesticide Coordinator

Parathion meeting to be in Lincoln

Lincoln will be the site of a national Environmental Protection Agency hearing on the use of parathion. The public hearing will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdrege streets.

The meeting is to gather information on the benefits of the nine remaining uses of parathion. Cancellation of some products or active ingredients is being considered.

Larry Schulze Extension Pesticide Coordinator

Let *Inside/Outside* answer your home horticulture and pest control questions

Do you need information on how to establish and maintain trees, shrubs, turf, vegetable gardens and house plants? Do you have insects such as cockroaches, pantry pests, clothes moths, flies or other pests in your house? Are you concerned about structural pests such as termites and carpenter ants which may damage your home? Has your kitchen been invaded by mice?

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University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension. Subscribe now so you'll be prepared when you start reviewing garden catalogues next spring. The first issue is planned for February 1993.

If you need help on landscape establishment and management, plant diseases, and pest control in your home, backyard or business, subscribe to *Inside/Outside*. Send a check for \$25 to: INSIDE/OUT-SIDE, P.O. Box 830918, University of Nebraska, Lincoln NE 68583-0918. Be sure to include your name, complete address and ZIP Code. We look forward to serving you in 1993.

David L. Keith Extension Entomologist/Urban Chair, IANR/UNL Urban Pest Management Team



Insect Science Plant Disease Weed Science News

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Lisa Brown Jasa, Editor

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Soil moisture level up from recent years

The 1992 growing season can be characterized as one of the five coldest on record. Preliminary estimates rank the season as the second coldest, but these estimates may be revised after a complete analysis of weather records is completed. The cold summer coupled with above normal precipitation did have one beneficial aspect, crop water use was reduced significantly.

The crop moisture recharge period, which occurs from September through April, has begun on a very positive note. According to the Palmer Drought Severity Index, the areas of the state with the significant moisture deficits are the Panhandle and Southwest districts.

Average soil moisture deficiencies for a 5-foot profile as of Oct. 31 are: Panhandle: 7.50 inches; North Central: 3.50 inches; Northeast: .50 inch; Central: 3.75 inches; East Central: .50 inches; Southwest: 5.50 inches; South Central: 3.50 inches; and the Southeast: .50 inches.

The average moisture a 5-foot soil profile will hold (field capacity minus wilting point) are, by region: Panhandle: 8.7 inches; North Central: 8.0 inches; Northeast: 10.0 inches; Central: 11.0 inches; East Central: 10.0 inches; Southwest: 10.0 inches; South Central: 10.0 inches; and the Southeast: 11.0 inches. Because soils are highly variable, any one soil may hold more or less than the average for the district.

Figure 1 describes Nebraska's normal precipitation regime for November through April. On average, approximately 70 percent of this moisture generally enters the soil profile as recharge. Based on a scenario of normal precipitation and 70 percent infiltration, Figure 2 indicates the percent

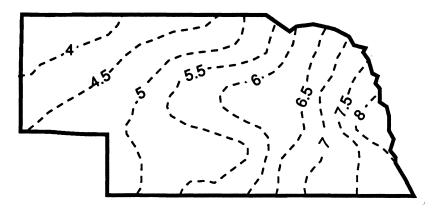


Figure 1. Normal liquid equivalent precipitation in inches, for the November-April period.

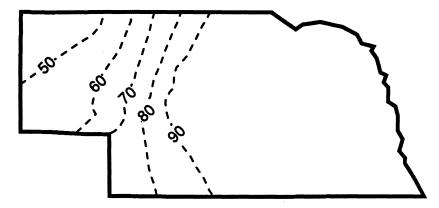


Figure 2. Moisture available as a percent of the total water holding capacity of a soil (field capacity minus wilting point). Projections are for May 1, 1993 and apply to fields where rowcrops were grown in 1992.

available soil water projections for May 1, 1993. For example, if a soil can hold 10 inches of water in a 5-foot profile and has a recharge projection of 65%, then 6.5 inches of soil water would be available next May.

Figure 2 indicates that most farmers east of the Panhandle should have excellent soil moisture reserves entering the 1993 growing season if normal precipitation is received. The eastern two-thirds of Nebraska should have between

90 and 100 percent recharge of any given 5-foot soil profile. In fact, above normal precipitation this winter would increase groundwater recharge, a luxury Nebraska has not experienced in several years. Soil moisture and streamflow projections will be published in this newsletter next spring before the start of the 1993 growing season.

Al Dutcher State Climatologist Agricultural Meteorology

1992 IPW News Index

The following index is arranged alphabetically by subject. The first number after the entry (e.g. 92-1) is the issue number. The second number indicates the page within that issue. One issue was misnumbered 92-19 rather than 92-20, so the true 92-19 (Sept. 4) is indicated by 92-19a and the second (Sept. 11) is indicated by 92-19b.

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Crop Watch

Keeping you informed today so you can manage better tomorrow

Crop Watch is the new name for the *Insect Science, Plant Disease and Weed Science News*. While this newsletter will continue to carry the same indepth and timely coverage of insect, plant disease and weed problems, it also will include expanded coverage of the effects of weather, crop water use, crop production updates, and 10 special focus features on crops and management tips. A subscription includes 24-26 issues published from March to November.

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Reader survey

Dear IPW News Subscriber,

We value your opinion and want to know what you think about the *Insect Science*, *Plant Disease* and *Weed Science News*? What do you like and what don't you like about it? How can we improve it for you? Please take a moment and fill out this survey. Then fold it, staple or tape it, and return it to us, postage free. Thank you.

1.	What is your occupation?		How would you categorize it?		
	Farmer/Rancher	Business Manager	Sales/Applicators		
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2.		1) how many acres do you farm and what raise?	crops do you produce; or 2) what kind and how		
3.		about IPW News?			
4.					
5.		er areas you would add? If so, what?			
6.	Have you changed any YesNo Pesticide selection	y pest management or crop production pr If so, in what areas? (Please check all t	ractices as a result of information in <i>IPW News</i> ? that apply.) ng Nonchemical controls		
7.	Can you give an exam	ple and/or assign a dollar value per acre	to your savings?		
8.	Are you getting the in:	formation you need on a timely basis?	If not, please give specific examples.		
9.	What other sources do		Newspaper Radio		
10.			vhat to read? What do you do with the newsletter		
11.	How many other peop	ole read your newsletter after you're done	?		
12.	Do you plan to subscrib	be to IPW News in 1993? YesNo	_If not, please explain		

Additional comments?					
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