

Corn and Grain Sorghum Weekly Update – May 31, 2024

Division of Agriculture, University of Arkansas System, Cooperative Extension Service

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General Information

As seen in Table 1 below, average moisture sensor readings averaged across all 4 depth sensors (measured in centibars), next projected irrigation dates, heat units, crop stage along with a few notes about field activities are listed for each location. Weather data is collected at the weather station placed at each individual field. We are utilizing AgSense telemetry units with soil moisture sensors placed at 6, 12, 18, and 30 inch to collect soil moisture data. We input this data to the AR Soil Calc app to initiate irrigations.

Most fields received significant rainfall last week with more expected from Friday and through next week. We have a couple of fields that will need irrigation by Monday if we miss rainfall in those areas. Three fields have pre-tassel nitrogen applications scheduled for later this week. Most of the fields will be scheduled for pre-tassel nitrogen applications later next week or the following week.

We have found common rust in a few of the fields. Though this rust frequently occurs in Arkansas yield losses are negligible and do not require fungicide applications because environmental conditions in the summer are not favorable for common rust. More information on foliar diseases in Arkansas corn production can be found here:

<https://www.uaex.uada.edu/farm-ranch/pest-management/plant-disease/corn.aspx>

Table 1.

County	Avg. moisture Sensor reading (in cb)	Projected Irrigation date	Heat Units	Crop Stage	Field Notes
Arkansas	10.0	6/4	1151	V13	Pre-tassel nitrogen application planned for 5/31. 4.52" rainfall last week.
Clark					Field has been to wet to plant so far this year.
Clay	4.0	6/5	1078	V11	Small amount of common rust found. 3.43" rainfall last week.
Drew	18.3	6/4	1246	V14	Pre-tassel nitrogen application planned for 5/30-31. 4.66" rainfall last week.
Jefferson	23.3	6/4	1153	V12	Field had green snap from the storms last week. Preliminary counts show approx. 15% stand reduction. 4.52" rainfall last week.
Lonoke	17.3	6/5	804	V9	Field is growing well. 2.82" rainfall last week.
Mississippi	39.5	6/2	1078	V12	Small amount of common rust found. 0.75" rainfall last week.
Phillips	44.0	6/2	1318	V15	Pre-tassel application of nitrogen scheduled for this week. Small amount of common rust found. 3.07" rainfall last week.
White	12.5	6/4	1021	V11	Small amount of common rust found. 2.97" rainfall last week.