



## Field Notes for The Week Of 6-27-2022

### Amber Waves of Grain

Summer has officially begun, and the weather is truly summer like, with daytime high reaching the low 90's and nighttime lows in the 60°F range, our heat loving crops are soaking it up and growing very well. This past week was a busy week for southern Ohio producers from finishing up soybean planting to making the last bit of first cutting hay. Precipitation amount varied widely across the county with some producers receiving as much as 2 inches of rain and some only about .1 inches. This is a common occurrence going into summer, widespread rains become less common and pop-up storms become more of the routine. The problem with pop up showers is that they have no direction, they pop up and sit in one location, dumping heavy rain that can cause flooding, crop damage, and a lot of soil compaction. All the while your neighbor five miles down the road gets little to no precipitation, it is truly the case of the have and have not! This past week I check my Western Bean Cutworm traps for the first time and fortunately none were caught! The Western Bean Cutworm has been a growing pest problem in the world of crop production, even though it is called the Western Bean Cutworm, its favorite meal is corn. This pest is not like other cutworm's in that it has little cutting in its eating process, rather it chews on reproductive parts of the plants such as silks, ears, and tassels. In Ohio, the adult moths will begin to emerge and lay eggs in the latter half of June through July.

This past week also marked the beginning of Winter Wheat Harvest as some producers with drying capabilities began harvesting and storing for future sales. Reports of good yields and average test weights are coming in. Average yields as high as 82 Bu/ac and test wheats hovering around 56 lb./bushel. As winter wheat wraps up this week, producers are making decisions on what to plant after wheat harvest. Many producers will choose to plant short season maturing soybeans to harvest for grain this coming fall while some producers will choose to plant warm season annual forages such as sorghum Sudan, Teff, Pearl Millet, and even spring oats. If you are planting a crop that be forages or soybeans remember to consider replacing your nutrients removed by the wheat grain and straw. One bushel of wheat grain will remove .50 lbs. of Phosphorus, .25 lbs. of potassium, the straw will remove an additional 3.70 lbs. of phosphorus and 29 lbs. of potassium per ton of yield. So, if your wheat yields averaged 60 bushels per acre and straw yields average 1 ton of yield/acre you will need to apply 33.7 lbs. of phosphorus and 44 lbs. of potassium. These values will be met with an application of 74 lbs. of Diammonium Phosphate and 74 lbs. of potash, with an additional application of 40 lbs. of Nitrogen for forage crops.

