



## Field Notes for The Week Of

8-15-2022

### Crops are Looking Good

This week marks the midpoint of August, this means summer is just about wrapped up and autumn is on its way. I believe summer won't give up too easy though, many forecast models are signaling a continued theme of warmer than usual beginning to fall. A warm fall might be necessary or even critical this year compared to past years. Many crops across the county are playing catch up due to wet spring weather that delayed planting so all the growing degree days will be needed to finish the crop out before a killing frost. This past week I was asked to make yield estimates and crop updates for the Ohio Country Journal, so I made multiple field visits to scout for crop development, disease pressure, pest damage, and estimated yield. Estimating yield this early can be a little challenging especially for soybeans due to many still fields are still in the early stages of the reproductive phase. On the other hand, I can give a more reliable estimate on corn due to the majority of the crop being mature and ears developed. Here are some notes that I took from my field scouting efforts.

- 1. There is a lot of variability in crop maturity-** From North to South there is a lot of variability in crops. Some soybeans are entering the R4 growth stage and pods are full, and beans are developed, while other fields are just starting the R1 growth stage. Some corn is beginning to dent while other are still blistering and even some fields haven't tasseled yet.
- 2. Disease Pressure is low but increasing-** Most of the crop fields I visited look very healthy considering the stressful weather conditions they have endured. I did take note of some small amounts of frogeye leaf spot, brown spot, and sudden death syndrome in soybeans but at very low pressure. I believe yield effects will be very minimal. The corn crop looks relatively healthy also with some signs of grey leaf spot and Northern Corn leaf blight. A few fields I visited had signs of Anthracnose on the lower stalk and lower leaf, this is a disease that infects the plant when it is young and can cause stalk rot later in the season. Symptoms are brown lesions on the lower leaves and dark brown blotches on the lower stalk. Yield effects from Anthracnose is minimal but standability is the main concern going into harvest season.
- 3. Weed are growing very well too!** – Many of the corn fields I visited were relatively weed free but many of soybean field are becoming increasingly populated with weeds. Water hemp, giant ragweed, foxtail, johnsongrass, and cocklebur were the main problem weeds I noticed in many soybean fields.
- 4. Yields Look Good-** For the corn crop I came up with a range of 170-215bushels per acre and soybeans yields ranged from 60-82 bushels per acre. Yields look very impressive, but it is still very early and there is a lot of time and many factors that influence final harvest yields.

