

# Farm, Weather, and Research Summary

Matt Groves—farm superintendent

## Farm Comments

**Developments.** In June, Ryan Farmer resigned and a search is underway to find the best candidate for the crop specialist position. Corn and soybean yields were significantly less than last year due to the lack of rain in the last half of the year. Plans for a new shop/machine shed at the Armstrong farm still are being discussed.

**Field days and tours.** A summer field day that focused on soil health was held with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and the NRCS's SWISH group. An evening field day in July focused on forages and participants were able to tour the forage plot. A field day in September focused on beef and highlighted the pea feeding study. The farm also hosted several plot days, a district FFA soils contest, and numerous meetings throughout the year. RaeLyn Barkley continued to promote the Wallace Learning Center for events such as weddings and graduation parties. The farms had about 1,800 visitors this year.

**Livestock.** The Armstrong farm again fed out the steer calves from the Iowa State cow herd at the McNay Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm in Chariton. Part of these steers were used in the pea feeding trial that was done on the individual intake feed bunks. A group of yearling steers were fed for an intake study as well. The McNay fall heifer calves again grazed the pasture until the pasture dried up; they were moved to another research farm to be finished.

## Crop Season Comments

Planting was completed in a timely matter. The growing season started with adequate moisture, but started falling behind average in the summer months. As expected, the lack of timely rains affected the crop yields. Armstrong corn averaged 151 bushels/acre and soybean averaged 51 bushels/acre. Yields at Neely-Kinyon were 125 bushels/acre on corn and 49 bushels/acre on soybean.

## Weather Comments

**Winter 2021-2022.** The winter was fairly mild with little snow and above average temperatures. It was a good winter for cattle feeding.

**Spring 2022.** Spring operations started in early April with planting starting April 27.

**Summer.** Stretches of hot weather and the lack of timely rains took a toll on pasture conditions as well as corn and soybean.

**Fall.** The dry weather continued into the fall, making for ideal harvest conditions. Harvest started September 28 and completed October 27. There were no issues with grain dry-down, and the farm eventually harvested the crops below the preferred moisture. Fall field work was finished by mid-November.

**Table 1. Armstrong Memorial Research and Demonstration Farm monthly rainfall and average temperatures.**

Month	Rainfall, inches		Temperature, °F		Days 90°F or above
	2022	Deviation from normal	2021	Deviation from normal	
January	0.57	-0.26	31.02	0.02	0
February	0.27	-0.82	39.53	2.53	0
March	4.34	2.15	50.13	0.13	0
April	3.10	-0.68	59.27	-3.73	0
May	5.72	0.83	72.63	-0.37	4
June	2.60	-3.25	84.80	1.80	9
July	2.41	-2.46	85.84	-0.16	6
August	2.21	-1.60	85.86	1.86	7
September	1.70	-1.75	79.47	2.47	2
October	0.98	-1.97	67.53	3.53	0
November	0.91	-0.81	47.93	-0.07	0
December	1.24	-0.22	32.34	-1.66	0
Totals	26.05	-10.84			28

## Research Summary

Project	Project Lead
Long-term nitrogen/crop rotation study	S. Archontoulis
BASF soybean trials	BASF
Corteva soybean demonstration	Corteva
Long-term organic rotation study	K. Delate
Organic control of thistles	
Organic grape study	
Organic vegetable production with cover crops	
Sorghum as a biomass crop	M. Fernandez
STRIPS bowl (ARF and N-K)	M. Helmers
Milkweed species demo	R. Hellmich
Oat variety trial	
Weather station	D. Herzmann
AdvanSix	M. Licht
BiOWISH	
Long-term tillage/crop rotation study	
Forage test plot research (ARF, N-K)	E. Lundy-Woolfolk
Hybrid rye yield trial	
Yearling intake study FIMS	D. Mueller/S. Wiggs
Statewide fungicide trial soybeans	
Field pea study FIMS	Practical Farmers of Iowa
Monarch habitat (ARF,N-K)	
Corn fungicide–Cardinal trial	A. Robertson
Iowa Crop Performance test trial–soybean	J. Rouse/G. Marzen
Black cutworm moth monitoring	A. Sisson
Corn rootworm research	
On-farm corn and soybean management studies	M. Witt
Iowa Soybean Association trial	

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The mention of organizational names or trade products does not imply endorsement.