Wheat harvest and planting late soybeans

Jill Scheidt, agronomy specialist with University of Missouri Extension, scouted fields near Arcola in Dade County and east of Miller in Lawrence County on June 17.

Wheat Report
Scheidt observed wheat entering the hard dough stage. When the kernel loses its green color, it is in the hard dough stage and usually enters physiological maturity 30-35 days after flowering, according to University of Minnesota Extension. “Wheat is ripe for harvest when the kernel is hard and cannot be split by your thumbnail,” said Scheidt.

Scheidt found sooty molds, black mold on kernels, which have occurred due to wet, humid weather. “Fields should be harvested as soon they are ready to avoid mold from increasing,” said Scheidt.

Hard dough stage: http://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/small-grains/growth-and-development/spring-wheat/

When is wheat ripe: http://www.uky.edu/Ag/GrainCrops/ID125Section2.html

Corn Report
Scheidt observed corn in the 7-8 leaf to tasselling stage. “A little rust was seen; generally rust does not warrant treatment in Missouri. Japanese beetles have been found in many insect traps across southwest Missouri. If corn is silking and pollination occurs, Japanese beetles need to be monitored for silk clipping,” said Scheidt.

Soybean Report
Scheidt observed soybeans are in the second trifoliate. According to Bill Wiebold, soybeans planted in the third week of June have 25 percent less yield potential than those planted in early May due to decreased daylight exposure during seed-fill.

Planting in narrow rows allows plants to capture available sunlight sooner in the shortened growing season. Soybeans planted in 15” rows versus 30” rows produced 14 percent higher yield when planted in the third week of June.

No difference in yield has been found by planting 7.5” versus 15” rows when planted in May, but may produce higher yields when planted later in June.

Other tips for late planting includes: Increase seeding rate by least 30,000 seeds/acre, limit soil compaction as much as possible, treat seeds with a fungicide and don’t switch maturity groups. http://ipm.missouri.edu/ipcm/2015/6/Make-the-Most-from-Late-Planted-Soybean/

“To determine soybean population in 30” rows, multiply the number of plants in 17.5 feet by 1,000. For 15” rows multiply number of plants in 34’ 10” by 1,000,” said Scheidt. http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/production/print,assessing-soybean-plant-stands.html

More Information
The weekly field scouting report is sponsored by University of Missouri and Barton County Extension. For more information on the scouting report, or to learn how to receive the information earlier by telephone, contact the Barton County Extension Center at (417) 682-3579.