

To: Oberlin Herald- Dana Manebach
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Kansas State Weather data library recorded spring rain March, April, May. Sheridan County 3.09", Norton County 6.09" and Decatur County 4.5". Alfalfa took it hard as early Army Cutworms and Weevil larvae were already on the plants. The freeze of April 12-14th really slowed things down, but the insects were still present. Alfalfa took an early beat down. As weather warms the insects tend to retreat and adult weevils hide out for the summer.

Wheat and Alfalfa have a lot of lower stem, tiller leaf damage from early April freeze. The Kansas Wheat Tour 2020. Early evaluations of stripe rust do show very isolated spots however the disease in this area is at a very low incidence. The time frame to treat wheat must be applied before the wheat heads flowers or within 30-day harvest withdrawal. Warmer temperatures above the 50's and 60's tend to slow stripe rust. Wheat fields of an excellent potential and a high risk of disease are the varieties best suited to treatment.

Discoloration in corn this time of year can be common. Purple corn at this time could announce a nutrient problem. Sometimes the metabolic processes are disrupted by cooler, wet conditions. Usually corn grows out of this by 6 leaf stage. Local producers can sign up for the K-State Agronomy Newsletter by contacting Kathy Gehl Agronomy Editor at 785-532-3354 or kgehl@ksu.edu.