



U.P. Ag Connections Newsletter

October 2021

Agricultural News from MSU Extension and AgBioResearch

Volume 25 Issue 10

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2021 crop performance variable across U.P.

Jim Isleib, MSU Extension U.P. Crop Production Educator

The very dry spring weather across the U.P. region allowed for early field work, but was very bad for grass hay development, resulting in unofficial reports of reduction in normal yields of 50% or more for 1st cutting grass and grass/legume hay crops. Pastures were slow starting and poor grass growth caused some challenges. Alfalfa yields were not as badly affected, due to the deep root system of the alfalfa plants.

Annual crops, including potatoes, small grains, dry beans and others were generally planted in a timely fashion. Emergence may have been delayed somewhat by dry soil and cool weather, but once rains arrived in June, these crops grew well. Rains were generally good through the rest of the growing season, with some exceptions.

Informal predictions of corn silage and grain yields are quite good in most areas. Yields of small grains including oats, barley and rye are average or better, potato harvest is underway with anticipation of good yields and quality, and the small acreages of dry beans and soybeans in the U.P. region show promise of good yields.

The big loser this year has been grass and mixed grass/legume hay.

The following table includes data from the 4 MSU Enviroweather stations across the U.P. region. Note that 2021 rainfall is below the four-year average at all locations, but growing degree days (a measurement of heat relating to plant growth) is above average at all locations. Those crops that avoided the spring drought and received timely rain had a good chance to perform well this year.

	<u>Total rainfall</u> 4/1 – 9/30/21	<u>Avg rainfall</u> 2017-2020 (4/1 – 9/30)	<u>Degree Days b42</u> 3/1 – 9/30/21	<u>Avg Degree Days b42</u> 2017-2020	<u>Degree Days b50</u> 3/1 – 9/30/21	<u>Avg Degree Days b50</u> 2017-2020
Chatham	15.25	20.7	3197	2878	1992	1777
Escanaba	16.38	17.9	3204	3012	2009	1871
McMillan / Newberry	15.12	17.9	3207	3031	1993	1893
Stephenson	11.52	19.2	3466	3253	2231	2078

Investigating Winter Hardiness to Advance Winter Malting Barley as a Climate Adaptation Strategy in Michigan

The Michigan malting barley industry has identified winter barley production as a promising alternative to spring barley, which may be better adapted to the agroecology of our state and unique opportunities/risks that climate change presents. Winter barley, planted in the fall and harvested the following summer, is better suited to the warming climate of southern Michigan, shows impressive yield potential relative to spring barley, may help to reduce the risk of head scab disease, and also permits double cropping with soybeans. Research elsewhere suggests that climate change will likely allow movement of winter barley production further northward into nontraditional growing areas. Yet, it remains unclear what the northern geographic threshold may be for winter barley production in Michigan today, and under future climate conditions. Recently, the winter of 2018-19 resulted in widespread injury to winter barley in southern Michigan and Ohio, suggesting that ongoing efforts to understand winter hardiness in barley and development of resilient winter barley varieties should be prioritized. In 2020-21, MSU received support from the Michigan Craft Beverage Council to investigate winter barley hardiness as a climate adaptation strategy for Michigan agriculture. The early results of this work are summarized below.

Objectives:

1. Compare winter injury and survival of seven elite winter barley cultivars under variable temperature, precipitation and snow cover conditions at five locations across Michigan representing USDA hardiness zones 4b – 6b.
2. Quantify known and novel traits previously associated with winter hardiness by sampling barley tissue from the field and analyzing it for desiccation, sugar accumulation, fatty acid desaturation, antioxidative enzyme levels and expression of DNA repair genes.
3. Improve winter barley variety development and Michigan site selection by constructing predictive winter hardiness models and sharing this new information through extension.

Methods:

- Five locations representing Michigan’s USDA hardiness zones at Empire (6b), KBS (6a), Stockbridge (5b), UPREC (5a) and Brimley (4b)
- Seven winter barley varieties and one cereal rye check
 - ◊ Charles, Flavia, LCS Calypso, LCS Violetta, Puffin, Thoroughbred, Wintmalt, KWS Serafino (rye)
- Sensors monitoring temperature, relative humidity and snow cover (light and cameras)
- Tissue sampling before and after cold hardening in the fall, followed by lab analysis
- Fall and spring stand counts
- Spring canopy cover observations (Canopeo)

Observations:

Location (Hardiness Zone)	Lat.	Plant Date	Avg. Fall Pop. (1 Ft ²)	Fall GDDs (32 F)	Min Crop Temp (F)	Snow Period	Max Snow Depth (In)
Empire (6b)	44.81	9/17	25.17	1,537.87	9.22	12/13-3/10	11
KBS (6a)	42.41	9/23	29.78	1,537.45	20.53	12/24-2/28	13
Stockbridge (5b)	42.45	11/5	29.49	454.84	21.66	12/25-2/28	16
UPREC (5a)	46.35	9/10	22.92	1,083.60	17.98	12/12-3/15	17
Brimley (4b)	46.40	9/18	17.25	1,091.34	16.32	12/14-3/18	18

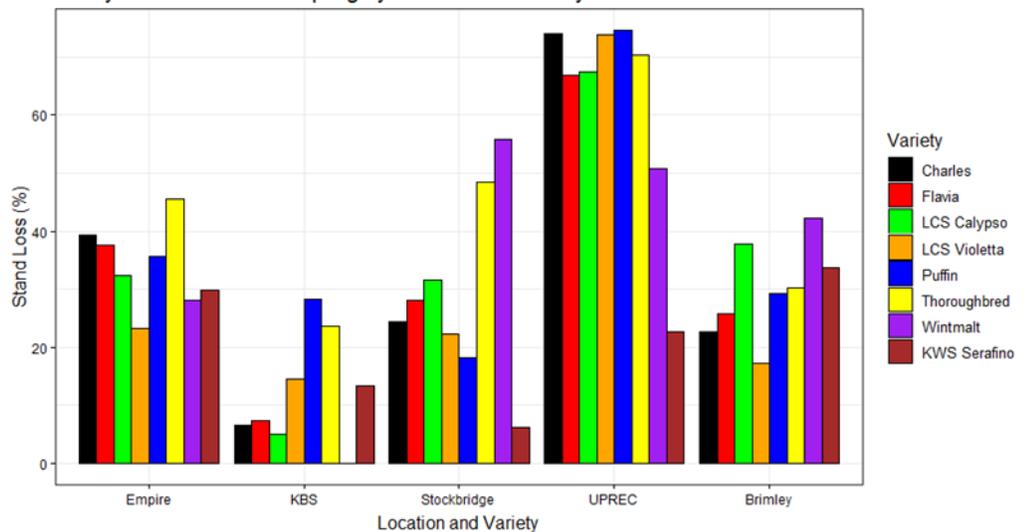
Preliminary Results:

- Stand loss over the winter varied significantly across varieties, by location.
 - ◊ UPREC experienced significantly more, and KBS significantly less, stand loss than the other locations.
 - ◊ Cereal rye (KWS Serafino) experienced significantly less stand loss than all winter barley varieties at Stockbridge and UPREC.
 - ◊ LCS Calypso experienced significantly less, and Wintmalt significantly more, stand loss than other winter barley varieties across most locations.
 - ◊ Wintmalt and LCS Calypso experience significantly less stand loss than other varieties at UPREC.
- Spring canopy cover varied significantly across varieties, by location.
 - ◊ Cereal rye (KWS Serafino) had significantly more canopy cover than winter barley at all locations, except Brimley.
 - ◊ Stockbridge and KBS had significantly more, Empire and UPREC significantly less, canopy cover than Brimley.
 - ◊ Wintmalt had significantly more canopy cover than other varieties at KBS and UPREC.
 - ◊ LCS Calypso, Thoroughbred, LCS Violetta, Flavia and Wintmalt had significantly less canopy cover than Charles at Stockbridge.

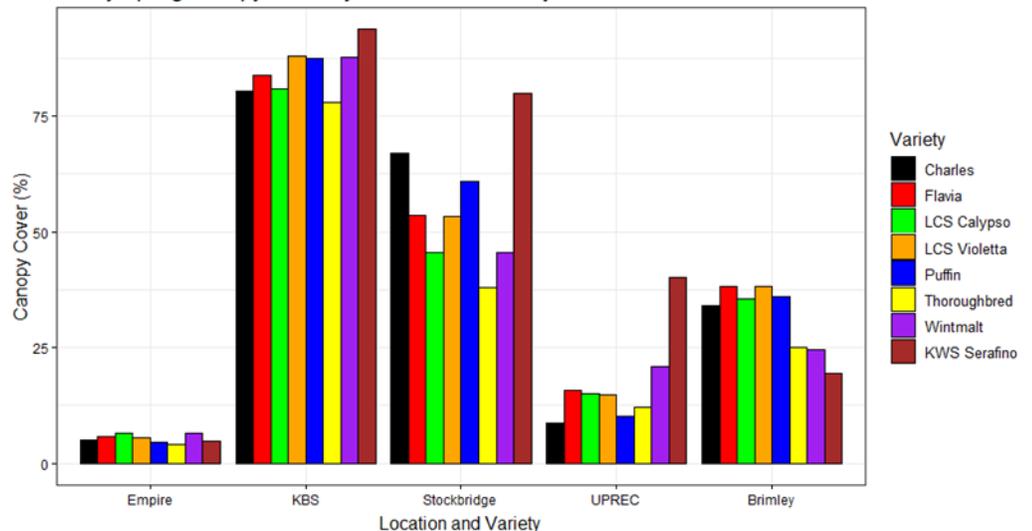
Next Steps:

- Complete lab analysis of barley tissue for traits associated with winter hardiness.
- Model relationship(s) between stand, green cover, environmental and tissue variables.
- Collect additional years of data to validate and/or improve our winter hardiness model.

Barley Stand Loss Fall to Spring by Location and Variety



Barley Spring Canopy Cover by Location and Variety



**Soybean Foliar Applied Products
& Corn Nitrogen Rates/Products:**

**Two-part Field Day Event
Thursday, October 14**

Part 1 - 10:00 to 11:15 a.m.

**Soybean Foliar Applied Fertilizer and Biological Products
Demo Plot**

Located at intersection of Larmey Lane & Hogsback Road,
0.5 miles north of Cty WW on Hogsback Road
or 2 miles south of Cty M on Town Line/Hogsback Road

Part 2 -11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Corn Nitrogen Product and Rate Research Plots

Located 0.8 miles south of Cty M on Town Line Road.

Host Farm: Aaron Behnke

Discussion and Plot Tours:

- * Soybean Foliar Fertilizer Product Plots
What products have an effect on yield, timing of application, options of combining with insecticide or fungicide applications, other factors
 - * Soybean population and other agronomics impacting yield and pest management
 - * Corn Nitrogen Management - Corn N rate and Envita™ plots
Do new N enhancement products work? What rates are best in our area?
 - * Corn & Soy Management Question and Answer Session
- Free to attend, Pre-registration not required. Contact Scott Reuss with any questions, at 715-732-7510.

New field crop insect pest management guide available

Jim Isleib, MSU Extension U.P. Crop Production Educator

The new 'MSU-OSU Field Crops Insect Pest Management Guide' authored by MSU field crops entomologist Dr. Chris Difonzo and Ohio State University's field crops entomologist Dr. Kelley Tilmon is now available. This type of resource has not been updated for several years and is much appreciated. It includes detailed information about current insecticides (chemistry, RUP status, re-entry intervals, class of actions, etc), comprehensive listings of insect pests, timing and types of damage caused, life cycles and control measures by crop.

The new guide is presented in 7 sections, including:

1. How to use this guide
2. Insect guide for forages
3. Insect guide for field corn
4. Insect guide for small grains
5. Insect guide for dry beans
6. Insect guide for soybeans
7. Insect guide for sugarbeets

The guide can be found on-line at <https://aginsects.osu.edu/news/msu-osu-insect-ipm-guide> or by googling *msu osu insect guide*.

Beef Management on Grass:

A Pasture Walk for new and established graziers

Saturday, October 16

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Lunch Provided – Sponsored by Crivitz Feed Mill and Marinette Cty. Dairy Promotions

Location: W8623 Cty. Hwy. P; Crivitz, WI (1.5 miles west of Hwy. 141 on Hwy. P)

Host: Greg Lewandowski

Pre-registration appreciated to ensure lunch availability for all attendees. Text/call Scott Reuss at 715-701-0966 or email to scott.reuss@wisc.edu with number attending.

Discussion and Viewing Topics:

+ Establishing a grazing operation: Planning, Cost-share opportunities, Resources available, Fence and water options.

* Fall Forage Management Considerations

* Grazing forages selection for NE WI

Any other topic brought up by attendees!

**Corn Fertilization & Hybrid Selection Field Day
Tuesday, October 26, 10 a.m. to Noon**

Intersection of Wildlife Ln & Louisa Rd, 1.5 miles north of Crivitz, WI on Louisa Rd
Host: Dudkiewicz Farms

Discussion Topics and Plot Tours:

Selecting Hybrids for Your Farm: What to look for
Hybrid and Nitrogen Rate Plots
Nitrogen Fertilization: Selecting Rates, Timing, and Products

Starter Fertilizers: What is Best?

Tillage Practice Impacts on Nutrient Management

Corn Management Question and Answer Session

Discussion Topics and Plot Tour order to be decided day of event.

Discussion topics led/facilitated by:

- * Scott Reuss, Agriculture Agent, UW-Madison, Division of Extension, Marinette and Oconto Counties
- * Jamie Patton, Sr. Outreach Specialist, UW-Madison NPM Program
- * Pioneer and Country Visions personnel
- * Joe and Ashley Dudkiewicz, Host Farmers

Field day is free, pre-registration not required
Contact Scott Reuss with any questions, 715-732-7510 or scott.reuss@wisc.edu

Classifieds

FOR SALE: Hay, 1st, 2nd, 3rd crop alfalfa baleage. Call Jim (906) 644-2107.

FREE: 30 ACRE HAY STUMPAGE. Looking for farmer to cut hayfield or develop crop annually. No rent or lease required. McMillan, Lakefield Township. Call Ed or Doris (713) 851-5987 or (281) 787-3179.

FOR SALE: Simmental Bulls, mature and young, registered and non-registered. Call Duane Kolpack (906) 362-6862.

FOR SALE: 2nd and 3rd crop alfalfa, small square bales. Marenger Potato Farm, Flat Rock. (906) 384-6587.

FOR SALE: Registered Dexter cattle, all ages and models. Call Tolfree Farms (906) 884-2351 or email countryj@jamadots.com.

FOR SALE: Hay, large square bales 3x3x7.75 Timothy grass, 4,000 to sell. Former dairy farm doing all big square bales hay. Call Dave Bell in the EUP 906-440-6455 or email Bellsdairy@yahoo.com. Also a realtor in the UP so contact me for real estate here. Dave@smith-company.com

Beautiful property in the Upper Michigan, 130 acres In Perkins for sale or pasture for rent for livestock for the 2021 season. Beautiful river running through it. Great for hunting, building or developing, or simple grazing livestock. Land is divided into 9 paddocks with high tensile electric fence and 5 stock watering ponds. Call (906) 359-4825.

FARM FOR SALE: Upper Peninsula Farm with over 1,100 acres, water access, maple syrup production, and much more! **Shady Lane Farms**
<http://shadylnfarms.wixsite.com/shadylnfarms>
Henry DeGroot (906) 238-4251
hjdegroot@alphacomm.net

FOR SALE: John Deere B. Clean, less than 50 hrs on rebuild. **Allis-Chalmers C.** New paint, runs good. **Hay Hauler.** Hauls up to 10—4x6 round bales, use spear on back, don't have to unhook. Call Terry (906)644-2777.

FOR SALE: International 5000, Self-propelled 14 foot windrower cab-hydro-diesel, has detachable hay conditioner. Stored inside, field ready. \$5000 (906) 988-2397.

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FOR SALE: Simm Angus Bulls-Genomic Tested, Balanced EPD's, Great Disposition, born Fall of 2020. (906)281-0808 or (815)614-0163.

Market Report

Choice Steers	\$115-\$125 per 100 lbs.
Holstein Steers	\$105-\$115 per 100 lbs.
Hogs	\$49-\$53 per 100 lbs.
Lambs	\$200-\$270 per 100 lbs.
Cull cows	\$55-\$65 per 100 lbs.
Calves	\$75-\$115 per 100 lbs.
Goats	\$200-\$340 per 100 lbs.

Breeding and Feeder Animals

Grade Holstein cows	\$700-\$875/head
Grade Holstein bred heifers	\$1000-\$1250/head

Feed Prices across the U.P.

	Avg. \$/cwt	Avg. \$/ton	Price Range
Corn	\$15.76	\$315.25	\$265-426
Soymeal	\$26.31	\$526.25	\$459-624
Oats	\$13.74	\$274.75	\$240-340
Barley	\$12.41	\$248.25	\$200-314
Average price/100 wt. for 1 ton lots			

Fall Classic Cattle Sale

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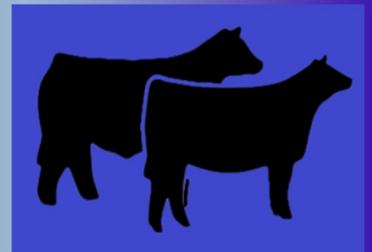
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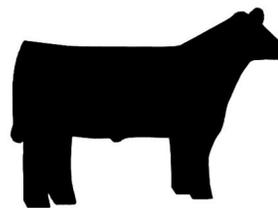
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Wild carrot control on U.P. farms

Jim Isleib, MSU Extension U.P. Crop Production Educator

In follow-up to contacts with farmers experiencing unusual trouble with wild carrot (*Daucus carota*) this summer, I contacted MSU weed scientist Dr. Erin Burns for detailed recommendations and thoughts. Erin sent the following useful and practical information:

Since wild carrot is a biennial (most populations, sometimes can act as an annual or short lived perennial), seed production is pretty important for the population to survive. If farmers can prevent new seed production this will have large impacts on overall control. Herbicide options are most effective either in the fall or early spring to rosette stage plants. If most of the plants have already flowered, I would try to mow/graze/clip/hay prior to those plants becoming more mature and producing viable seed. This fall I would then apply Crossbow (2,4-D ester + triclopyr, 2 qt/A of the 3L formulation, do not apply within 14 days of harvesting hay) to new rosette growth and again in the spring to new rosettes. The addition of triclopyr to the 2,4-D should provide better control than just 2,4-D alone. There are 2,4-D resistant populations. If none of the plants are controlled after this application I would try to collect seed and send it to diagnostic services for testing. There are other "hotter" herbicides/premixes available to control wild carrot that contain aminopyralid, aminopyralid has a lot of restrictions so I would treat that as a last resort or consider rotating to something else if the Crossbow apps do not help. As a general note, the Crossbow application will control any broadleaf plants, so only the grass will be left.