Greene Crop Consulting, Inc.

GREENE GAZETTE NEWSLETTER

14 JULY 2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TAKE A MAVERICK MINUTE

Sixty seconds is all it takes to prevent a lifetime of heartbreak. The Maverick Minute Foundation was born from unimaginable loss following a farm accident that claimed the lives of 4-year-old Maverick Flinn and his great-grandmother, Nancy Fox.

Today, their family is transforming that tragedy into a lifesaving national movement with one vital directive for agricultural communities:

Pause. Inspect. Protect.

Before turning the key, reversing the tractor, or rushing to the next field, take a "Maverick Minute." Take one breath. Walk the perimeter. Check your blind spots for children, coworkers, and family.

At Greene Crop Consulting, we are committed to farm safety and proud to stand behind this movement. It is a simple habit that will save lives.

Learn more about the foundation and how you can support the cause here:

maverickminute.org/

Take a Maverick Minute
PAUSE. INSPECT. PROTECT.

THESE TWO WEEKS CAN MAKE OR BREAK YOUR YIELD

The yield potential of your corn crop is about to be determined. Across Greene Crop territory, early planted fields have either already tasseled, or are set to tassel any day. The next 10 to 14 days will be some of the most critical of the growing season, making timely scouting and management more important than ever.

Pollination begins when the tassel starts shedding pollen. Each silk that emerges from the ear is connected to an individual kernel, meaning every kernel you hope to harvest must first be successfully pollinated. Excessive heat, humidity, and moisture during this period can reduce pollen viability, delay silk emergence, and create favorable conditions for disease, all of which can impact yield.

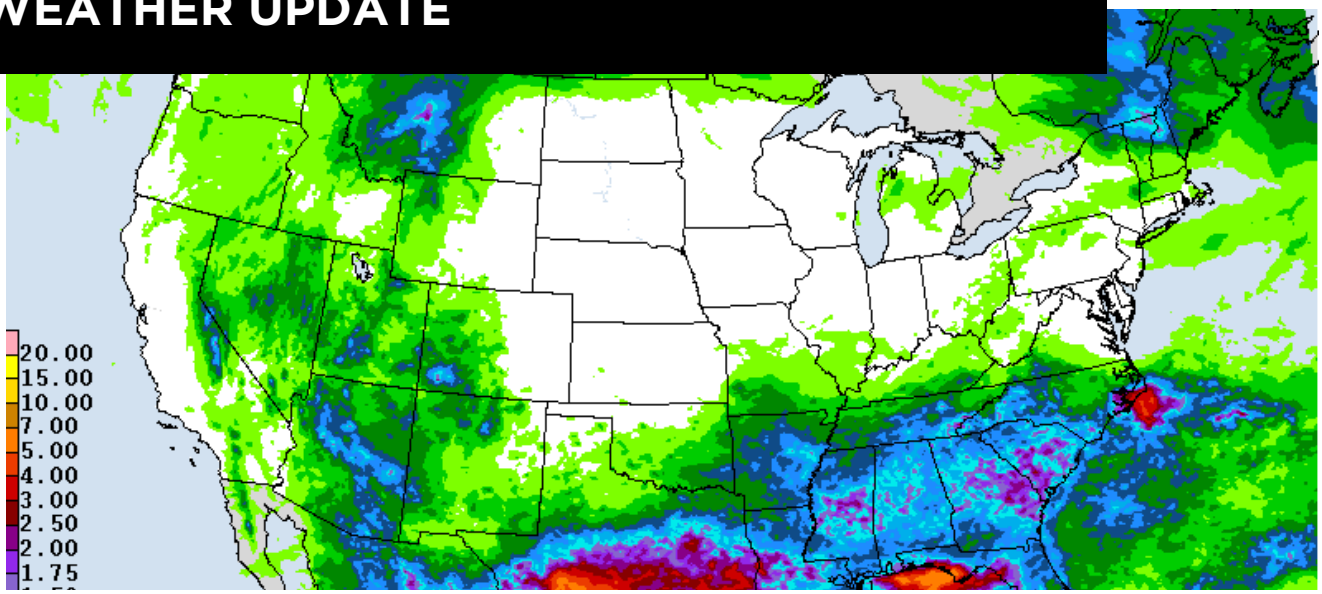
While we can't control the weather, we can help the crop better withstand these stresses. A timely VT-R1 fungicide application helps protect the upper canopy, preserving the leaves responsible for producing the energy needed during grain fill while reducing disease pressure. This application is also an excellent opportunity to include stress-mitigation and foliar nutritional products. Stress-mitigation products help improve the plant's tolerance to environmental stress, while foliar nutrition supports plant health, addresses in-season nutrient needs, and helps maximize photosynthetic efficiency during grain fill.

As you walk fields over the next couple of weeks, pay close attention to tassel and silk emergence, signs of stress, insect activity, and early disease development. Timely scouting and management during pollination can help protect yield potential long before the combine enters the field.

If you have any questions about pollination, products we offer (fungicides, foliar nutritionals, stress mitigation), or would like to sign up for our scouting program to stay on top of your yield, call us at our office!

Content Created by Brooks Werner

WEATHER UPDATE



Looking ahead at the forecast for this upcoming week, we can expect predominantly dry conditions overall. While it won't be completely rain-free, any precipitation will be limited to brief, hit-or-miss showers. These isolated rain events will be very scattered, meaning many areas might not see a drop at all.

Weather Prediction Center (WPC)
Home Page

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

UNDERSTANDING FALLING NUMBERS AND CROP INSURANCE QUALITY ADJUSTMENTS

Recent rainfall across Indiana has raised concerns about wheat quality, particularly for fields that remained unharvested during extended wet periods. One quality issue growers may encounter is a low falling number, which can significantly impact grain value and, in some cases, crop insurance claims.

What Is A Falling Number?

The falling number test measures the activity of the enzyme **alpha-amylase** in wheat. Under normal conditions, mature wheat has low enzyme activity and produces a high falling number. However, when mature grain is repeatedly exposed to rainfall or prolonged moisture, kernels may begin to sprout before harvest (pre-harvest sprouting). This process increases alphaamylase activity, which breaks down starch into simple sugars.

For flour mills and bakers, excessive alpha-amylase is undesirable because it weakens dough structure and produces inconsistent baking performance. As a result, elevators often discount wheat with low falling numbers or, in severe cases, reject loads altogether.

How Crop Insurance Handles Falling Number

From a crop insurance perspective, falling numbers are considered a quality adjustment, not a separate insurable cause of loss. Quality losses are reflected as an adjustment to the production used when determining a harvest claim.

According to current crop insurance procedures:

- Falling numbers between 200 and 299 receive a quality adjustment factor when calculating production to count.
- Falling numbers below 200 are adjusted based on the actual discount applied by the receiving elevator, consistent with the Crop Provisions and Special Provisions of Insurance.

Falling Numbers: All Other Classes	Falling Numbers - All Classes	200.000	224.000	0.1410
	Falling Numbers - All Classes	225.000	249.000	0.1090
	Falling Numbers - All Classes	250.000	274.000	0.0780
	Falling Numbers - All Classes	275.000	299.000	0.0470

Figure 1.

Quality adjustment factors applied to wheat with falling numbers between 200 and 299 when determining production to count for crop insurance claims. These quality adjustment factors recognize that the grain has lost market value even though physical production may remain unchanged.

SECTION B - DEFICIENCY NOT IN DISCOUNT FACTOR CHARTS

DFs included in section A are not used if production meets requirements under this section. For production that has a test weight below 44 pounds per bushel, a defects percentage above 35 percent, a sprout damage percent above 15 percent, or a falling number for wheat below 200 on the date of final inspection for the unit adjust production in the following manner:

1. If sold to a disinterested third party prior to 60 days after the calendar date for the EOIP, the DF will be the sum of all RIVs applied by the buyer due to all insurable quality deficiencies, and that value divided by the local market price. Production receiving an RIV for sprout damage will not also receive an RIV for falling number.
2. For unsold production or production sold to other than a disinterested third party prior to 60 days after the calendar date for the EOIP, the DF will be .500 (unless you elect to delay settlement as specified in the General Statements above).
3. If unsold 60 days after the calendar date for the EOIP, fed, utilized in any other manner or is sold to other than a disinterested third party the DF will be .500.

Figure 2.

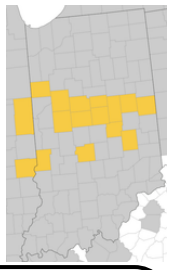
Crop insurance Special Provisions outlining how wheat with falling numbers below 200 is adjusted based on the elevator's actual quality discount.

If you receive a falling number discount from your elevator, be sure to retain all scale tickets, settlement sheets, quality test results, and discount documentation. These records are essential when determining eligibility for quality adjustments under your crop insurance policy. Quality losses can be just as important as yield losses, especially in years with frequent rainfall during harvest.

If you're seeing falling number discounts or have questions about how they'll affect your crop insurance claim, give Danny or Nathan a call (317-739-6466, Greene Crop Office). We'll help you understand your options and what is needed to maximize your eligible claim.

RECENT COOL TEMPERATURES AND FREQUENT RAINFALL HAVE CREATED FAVORABLE CONDITIONS FOR DISEASE

So far, tar spot detections have been concentrated mainly in central Indiana. We are now up to a total of 14 confirmed counties, which include: Benton, Boone, Clinton, Delaware, Hamilton, Hancock, Madison, Montgomery, Morgan, Randolph, Rush, Tippecanoe, Tipton, and Vigo.



Content Organized by Connor Donsbach

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

01 Small, raised black spots (stromata) on corn leaves that resemble flecks of tar.

02 Spots cannot be rubbed off like insect frass or dirt.

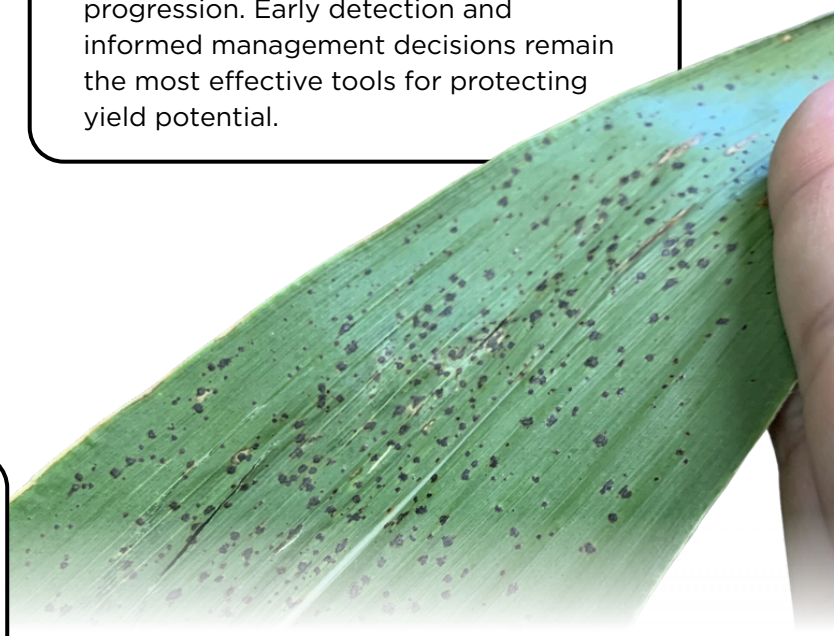
03 Initial infections are often found in the lower canopy before moving upward.

IMMEDIATE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Begin scouting fields once corn reaches the V7–V8 growth stage.
- Focus inspections on the lower canopy, especially in fields with:
  - *Continuous corn*
  - *Reduced tillage*
  - *A history of tar spot*
- Monitor disease reports and forecasting tools regularly.
- Consider hybrid susceptibility and field history when evaluating risk. Moderate resistance can significantly slow disease development.

DON'T PANIC - BUT DON'T WAIT

A confirmed detection does not mean immediate spraying is needed. Instead, use the detection as a signal to intensify scouting efforts and track disease progression. Early detection and informed management decisions remain the most effective tools for protecting yield potential.



FUNGICIDE TIMING MATTERS

Research from Indiana indicates the best window for a single fungicide application is typically between VT (tasseling) and R3 (milk stage). Applications made too early may not provide season-long protection, while applications made after disease becomes established in the upper canopy often provide limited benefit.

Scan for "Tar Spot of Corn Map"

Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System by The University of Georgia - Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

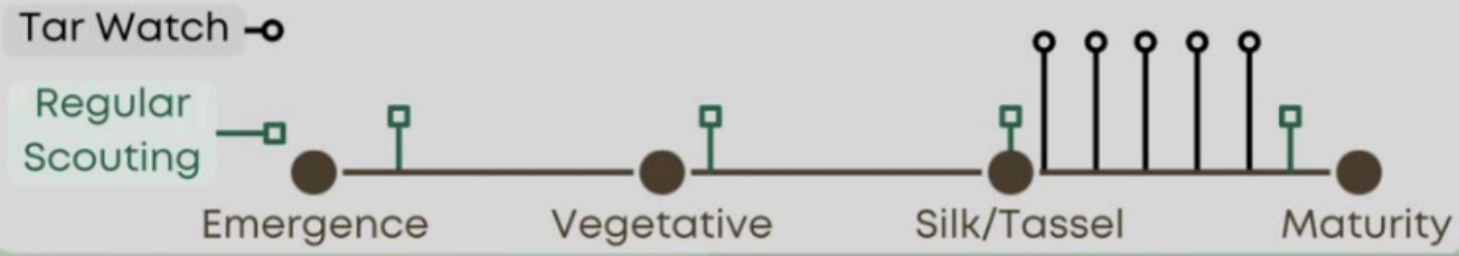
Greene Crop Consulting, Inc.

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO:
Tyler Gabehart 317.656.0624

TAR WATCH

GREENE CROP CONSULTING OFFERS INTENSIVE TAR SPOT SCOUTING. YOU WILL RECEIVE WEEKLY TAR SPOT SCOUTING SERVICES, 5 WEEKS OF TEXT UPDATES, A DISEASE SEVERITY RATING AND FUNGICIDE TIMING ALERTS!

Tar Watch vs Regular Scouting Timeline:



GREENE GAZETTE NEWSLETTER

Content organized by Connor Donsbach