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County

Champaign

Region/State

Region 5

Field Photo Upload 1



Field Photo Upload 2



Field Photo Upload Caption 1

Corn field at V5-V6 showing slight leaf rolling at 10am - June 15, 2023

Field Photo Upload Caption 2

Soybean plant in dry, cracked soil showing first flower - June 15, 2023

Which of the following best describes current conditions in this county?

Moderately Dry (soil is dry, plants may be browning or stressed, water bodies are low)

If conditions are on the dry end, which of the following US Drought Monitor categories best fit current conditions. To better judge the fit, see explanation of USDM categories here:

<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About/AbouttheData/DroughtClassification.aspx>

Moderate Drought (D1)

Quick synopsis of conditions that will appear in the main feed

Although some rain fell in much of the area this past Sunday, total rainfall was low (0.14" at the Illinois Climate Network (ICN) station in Champaign) and conditions remain dry in Champaign County. ICN soil moisture data show levels below the plant wilting point at 2" and 4" depths, however, at least where these instruments are in place, plant available moisture is still present at 8" and deeper. The lack of soil moisture at the shallower depths is evident when driving around the countryside. Corn plants in drier areas of fields are showing rolled leaves even in the morning hours. By the afternoon, the signs of moisture stress are more prevalent. Most corn plants are somewhere in the V5-V8 stages, and at that size, have at least some roots that are deep enough to reach the soil moisture still available. Soybeans may be struggling a bit more at this point, and their growth seems to have slowed in most fields. The plants still look relatively healthy, and the first flowers are starting to appear. But with little rain in the extended forecast, these early flowers are unlikely to contribute much to final pod counts.