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Estimation of Corn Yield Loss from Defoliation
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Corn yield loss from defoliation is greatly affected by stage of defoliation. Corn plants can recover from extensive leaf area loss if loss occurs before the 12 leaf-collar stage. **Use the following information with caution.** These data estimate yield loss from defoliation only. Be careful to observe plants closely. Stem bruising from hail will greatly increase yield loss.

Expected yield loss (% of “normal”) when % of leaf area destroyed is:

Growth stage	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
7-leaf	0	0	0	1	2	4	5	6	8	10
9-leaf	0	0	1	2	4	6	7	9	11	13
11-leaf	0	1	2	5	7	9	11	14	18	22
13-leaf	0	1	3	6	10	13	17	22	28	34
15-leaf	1	2	5	9	15	20	26	34	42	51
17-leaf	2	4	7	13	21	28	37	48	53	65
19-21-leaf	3	6	11	18	27	38	51	64	79	96
Silked	3	7	12	20	29	39	51	65	80	97
Blister	2	5	10	16	22	30	39	50	60	73
Early milk	2	4	8	14	20	28	36	45	55	66
Late milk	1	3	6	10	15	21	28	35	42	50
Soft dough	1	2	4	8	12	17	23	29	35	41
Early dent	0	1	2	5	9	13	18	23	27	32
Late dent	0	0	1	3	5	7	9	11	13	15

from the National Crop Insurance Service
