

Transforming Climate Variability and Change Information for Cereal Crop Producers

Accomplishment Highlights

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- **Established a diverse team of nearly 50 faculty, staff, and students** from nine universities across the Midwest with expertise in climatology, agronomy, crop modeling, cyber–technology, economics, and social science.
- **Developed a cyber-infrastructure framework** for managing crop and climate model input and output datasets, model validation activities, data analysis and visualization, and decision tool design.
- **Collected representative climate, agronomic, and soils datasets** at various spatial and temporal scales to support crop modeling and economic analysis across the 12–state region.
- Surveyed over 19,000 farmers in 22 top corn-producing watersheds across the North Central region about climate information needs, climate change beliefs and concerns, and influential information sources (in conjunction with sustainable corn.org).
- **Surveyed over 7,500 formal and informal agricultural advisors** in four pilot states (IA, IN, MI, and NE) in the North Central region about their use of climate information, climate change beliefs and concerns, and influential information sources.
- 6 Launched a web portal linking the public to relevant and trusted resources including agro-climate reports, decision support tools, regionally-customized weather/climate condition maps and drought information, national climate outlooks, and more.
- Initiated development of several new decision support resources, including an easy-access interface to region-wide climatological information and a Growing Degree Day (GDD) tool for examining past, current, and future conditions.
- **Established partnerships with agro-climate research and Extension groups,** regionally and internationally, to enhance and expand U2U project discoveries.
- Presented U2U-related findings and project information to researchers and community stakeholders at over 20 conferences and meetings.

www.AgClimate4U.org

U2U Study Region

Pilot States

Major Corn Growing Area

Minor Corn Growing Area

Map created by Adam Reimer

The U2U project aims to improve the resilience and profitability of farms in the North Central region amid variable climate change through the development and dissemination of decision support tools, resource materials and training.

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