With Thanksgiving approaching, the end to the annual corn harvest is also quickly coming to a close.

Corn harvest was estimated to be about 90 percent or more complete as of Tuesday morning, Nov. 15 and should wrap up within the coming weeks, weather permitting.

Steve Young of Grainland Cooperative noted the quality of this year's crop has looked very good. Yields have been down which is linked to the summer hail storms the area received.

Young noted they have dealt with about the same number of bushels as they did last year. The usually noticeable corn piles haven't been seen as much this year due to Grainland being able to move more out in preparation for harvest.

Corn has been quickly piling up at Grainland Cooperative's State Line location. As of Tuesday, Nov. 15
harvest was roughly 90 percent complete according to Grainland Co-op.
—Enterprise photo

Winter wheat crop off to good start

Young said most farmers were able to get their winter wheat crop drilled this fall. He said farmers had great conditions to get everything drilled in time. Some moisture hampered the beginning of the drilling season but didn't keep farmers out for good.

Beet harvest wrapped up

The local sugar beet harvest wrapped up just before Halloween, according to Justin Herman of Western Sugar. He noted they finished up a couple weeks ago in the Ogallala, Neb. area and some receiving stations along the front range are still receiving beets.

Herman said overall, the crop was average. He estimated they harvested right around 25 tons of sugar beets with an average 16 percent sugar. "This is fairly typical for the area," Herman said.

He said locally there were some disease problems. A high percentage of the local fields experienced some root rot. This is linked to the warm wet summer Holyoke experienced. Herman said a number of the storms in June and July sealed the soil surface up which essentially made pressure cooker like conditions.

Hail played another role in the outcome of the crop. Herman said 80 percent of the local fields received hail at least one time. He said they were looking at a record crop up until about July 1 when storms knocked things back a bit.

Beets from Phillips and Sedgwick counties in Colorado and Chase County, Neb. are being hauled to Western Sugar's location in Fort Morgan. Beets in the Ogallala and Big Springs area in Nebraska are trucked to the location in Scottsbluff, Neb.

Trucks have been busy recently hauling sugar beets to Western Sugar's location in Fort Morgan.
The pile located at the state line was slowly dwindling last week as trucks lined up to be filled.
—Enterprise photo

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