

Hammered Northern area crops whacked by hail, wind

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
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Gothenburg area farmer Josh Cool spent most of a sweltering Monday salvaging corn that was scattered on the ground after high winds, or a twister, smashed a round hay bale into a bin.

Cool, who farms in the northern hills, also lost about a third of his corn and soybeans to hail and wind during a storm that struck the area Thursday night, said his wife, Helen Cool.

As storm clouds formed, many local residents and area farmers hoped for rain.

And plentiful rains did come, at least north of Gothenburg where an inch to two inches of precipitation were recorded.

But about two inches of hail also littered the area in places, according to farmer and rancher Dave Loostrom.

Wind and hail damage to crops was reported in an area up to four miles wide, starting just south of the Custer County line and north, according to Dan Tinlin, manager of The Home Agency insurance company.

Tinlin said damage to corn and soybeans was moderate to severe. Monetary loss will be better known after Thursday.

“When you look at clients whose corn was insured, most are adequately insured,” he said. “Even if it’s a total loss, they should survive.”

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Over the past few days, the Northern area has been hit by a combination of hail and wind, which has caused significant damage to crops and infrastructure. The weather conditions have led to a loss of yield in several key crops, and the damage to infrastructure has caused significant disruption to the supply chain. The impact of the weather has been particularly severe in the Northern area, where the crops are more vulnerable to damage. The damage to infrastructure has also caused significant disruption to the supply chain, as the weather has led to a loss of yield in several key crops. The impact of the weather has been particularly severe in the Northern area, where the crops are more vulnerable to damage. The damage to infrastructure has also caused significant disruption to the supply chain, as the weather has led to a loss of yield in several key crops.