



Crops & Weather

National Agricultural Statistics Service
Iowa Field Office

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In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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For the week ending April 3, 2011

FIELD WORK UNDERWAY

The arrival of April often triggers extensive field work. This year field work is off to a slower start than last year. Many are waiting for fields to warm up and dry out enough to support machinery. Smoke was a common sight over the weekend as many took advantage of the opportunity to burn fence rows, ditches, and some Conservation Reserve Program land for mid-contract management.

There were 2.0 days suitable for fieldwork during the past week. Topsoil moisture levels rated 1 percent very short, 4 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. Areas in northern Iowa have snow remaining in shady areas or low-lying ditches where it had drifted as well as frost remaining in the ground.

Oat acreage planted was 6 percent complete, behind both last year's 25 percent and the five-year average of 9 percent. Little planting has taken place in the northern one-third of the state. Throughout the state, most field work has involved anhydrous and dry fertilizer application. Some tillage and manure hauling is also taking place.

Pasture and range condition rated 5 percent very poor, 14 percent poor, 44 percent fair, 32 percent good, and 5 percent excellent. Pastures have been slow to develop with some still dormant. Calving has gone well for most with below average losses.

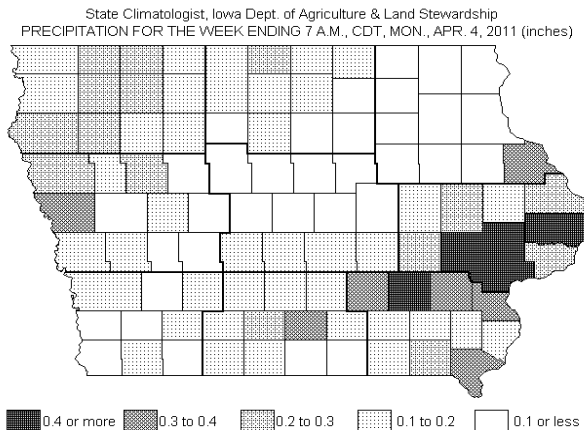
IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

Iowa experienced a wide variety of weather this past week as is typical at this time of year. One to three inches of snow fell over the southwest one-half of Iowa on Monday (28th) while temperatures soared into the upper 80's in some areas on Sunday (3rd) afternoon in advance of severe storms across parts of southeast Iowa. Large hail was reported from 16 counties on Sunday evening with the largest hail, up to three inches in diameter, pelting the Dubuque area. Precipitation was mostly on the light side this past week with totals varying from only traces at Waterloo, Allison, Grundy Center and Hastings to 0.93 inches at West Branch (Cedar County). The statewide average precipitation was 0.16 inches while normal for the week is 0.66 inches. In addition to the light snow on Monday, light rain fell over the northwest two-thirds of the state on Thursday (31st) into Friday (1st) while thunderstorms dampened much of the southeast one-half of Iowa on Sunday. Temperatures were below normal from Monday (28th) through Thursday (31st) with daytime highs mostly in the 40's. Temperatures edged above normal by Friday (1st) afternoon and numerous daily record highs were established on Sunday when highs ranged from the mid 50's northwest to upper 80's south central. Weekly temperature extremes varied from a Wednesday (30th) morning low of 16 degrees at Cresco to a Sunday afternoon high of 89 degrees at Osceola. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 0.1 degree below normal. Soil temperatures as of Sunday were averaging in the mid to upper 40's in most areas. High winds raked the state on both Friday and Sunday raising concern for the spread of grass fires.

Crop Conditions as of April 3, 2011

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Range & Pasture	5	14	44	32	5



Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 3, 2011

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
Days suitable	(Days) 0.5	(Days) 1.0	(Days) 1.4	(Days) 1.8	(Days) 2.0	(Days) 3.6	(Days) 3.5	(Days) 2.7	(Days) 3.3	(Days) 2.0	(Days) NA	(Days) 4.0	
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	1	NA	1	
Short	2	1	2	5	11	1	5	4	2	4	NA	3	
Adequate	75	90	70	83	72	89	82	79	85	80	NA	72	
Surplus	23	9	28	11	16	10	10	17	13	15	NA	24	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	NA	0	
Short	2	2	2	4	4	0	8	5	1	3	NA	1	
Adequate	76	88	75	83	75	85	80	82	85	81	NA	70	
Surplus	22	10	23	13	21	15	11	13	14	16	NA	29	

Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office. For the week ending: 8:00 am Sunday, April 3, 2011, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

STATION	CURRENT WEEK						SINCE APRIL 1		CURRENT WEEK	
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
North West District										
Estherville	56	25	38	2	0.04	-0.52	0.04	-0.20	0	0
Sioux Center	61	20	39	-3	0.18	-0.33	0.10	-0.12	3	3
Spencer	57	24	39	-1	0.09	-0.47	0.09	-0.15	2	2
Spirit Lake	64	22	39	2	0.23	-0.26	0.00	-0.21	1	1
North Central District										
Britt	55	20	36	-6	0.15	-0.42	0.15	-0.10	0	0
Humboldt	58	21	37	-5	0.15	-0.46	0.11	-0.16	0	0
Mason City	56	21	38	-2	0.12	-0.45	0.12	-0.13	1	1
Osage	54	20	36	-4	0.12	-0.52	0.12	-0.16	0	0
North East District										
Decorah	68	17	39	-3	0.03	-0.61	0.03	-0.26	6	6
Dubuque	57	18	37	-4	0.04	-0.74	0.04	-0.30	1	1
Elkader	57	14	33	-9	0.01	-0.61	0.01	-0.26	0	0
Fayette	57	12	35	-6	0.00	-0.62	0.00	-0.27	0	0
Waterloo	60	19	39	-3	0.00	-0.65	0.00	-0.29	4	4
West Central District										
Carroll	64	20	37	-5	0.10	-0.55	0.03	-0.26	0	0
Castana	65	22	38	-7	0.14	-0.42	0.03	-0.21	0	0
Guthrie Center	64	21	39	-5	0.08	-0.60	0.00	-0.30	0	0
Harlan	66	23	39	-6	0.13	-0.48	0.05	-0.22	0	0
Jefferson	63	23	39	-4	0.10	-0.55	0.03	-0.26	0	0
Logan	68	24	38	-6	0.04	-0.52	0.00	-0.24	0	0
Rockwell City	61	20	37	-6	0.10	-0.45	0.10	-0.14	0	0
Sac City	61	22	37	-4	0.30	-0.33	0.25	-0.02	0	0
Sioux City	65	24	40	-4	0.29	-0.20	0.14	-0.07	6	6
Central District										
Boone	60	22	37	-6	0.08	-0.58	0.01	-0.29	0	0
Des Moines	64	28	43	-2	0.21	-0.47	0.01	-0.29	9	9
Grundy Center	59	21	37	-4	0.00	-0.63	0.00	-0.27	0	0
Marshalltown	60	20	39	-3	0.00	-0.66	0.00	-0.30	4	4
Newton	60	20	38	-6	0.04	-0.59	0.00	-0.27	0	0
Perry	63	22	38	-4	0.15	-0.45	0.01	-0.26	0	0
Toledo	61	18	37	-5	0.06	-0.57	0.00	-0.27	0	0
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	60	22	39	-4	0.10	-0.56	0.00	-0.30	3	3
Davenport	61	20	40	-4	0.00	-0.67	0.00	-0.30	5	5
Iowa City	61	24	41	-5	0.01	-0.72	0.00	-0.33	5	1
Lowden	60	18	35	-8	0.00	-0.74	0.00	-0.33	0	0
Maquoketa	58	19	35	-7	0.03	-0.63	0.03	-0.27	0	0
Muscatine	61	22	39	-7	0.00	-0.77	0.00	-0.33	0	-2
South West District										
Atlantic	65	22	38	-5	0.11	-0.52	0.02	-0.25	0	0
Clarinda	68	27	40	-4	0.11	-0.58	0.01	-0.29	0	0
Glenwood	69	24	38	-8	0.02	-0.54	0.00	-0.24	0	0
Red Oak	68	28	40	-7	0.09	-0.58	0.01	-0.29	0	0
Sidney	70	26	40	-5	0.02	-0.61	0.00	-0.27	4	4
South Central District										
Allerton	62	26	39	-5	0.05	-0.62	0.00	-0.30	0	0
Beaconsfield	63	25	39	-6	0.15	-0.51	0.00	-0.30	0	0
Chariton	62	23	38	-6	0.12	-0.58	0.00	-0.31	0	0
Indianola	63	24	39	-6	0.09	-0.59	0.00	-0.30	0	0
Leon	65	24	39	-5	0.11	-0.57	0.00	-0.30	0	0
South East District										
Bloomfield	62	25	39	-8	0.10	-0.62	0.00	-0.32	0	0
Burlington	63	27	43	-3	0.00	-0.77	0.00	-0.33	7	1
Ottumwa	63	27	42	-4	0.02	-0.64	0.00	-0.30	5	3
Washington	63	21	39	-8	0.08	-0.59	0.00	-0.30	1	1

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.