



Crops & Weather

National Agricultural Statistics Service
Iowa Field Office

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In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Issued January 31, 2011; Vol 11-2

For the week ending January 30, 2011

WINTER IN IOWA

For the most part, farmers in Iowa are upbeat as winter this year has seemed normal. Crops and Weather reporters commented:

“... normal cold snowy Iowa winter.”

“Middle of winter in Iowa.”

“Normal weather during the month of January.”

Some wide swings in temperatures were noted, but for the most part, weather concerns were minimal.

Snow cover in Iowa as January closed ranged from 4 inches in southeast Iowa to 13 inches in north central Iowa. Topsoil moisture levels rated 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 13 percent surplus.

Grain movement was 30 percent none, 30 percent light, 32 percent moderate and 8 percent heavy. Many producers were moving grain to fulfill January contracts. Although some areas experienced weather-related difficulties moving grain, most areas had opportunities to move grain at least a few weeks of the month.

Availability of hay and roughage supplies was 12 percent short, 77 percent adequate and 11 percent surplus. Hay quality rated 14 percent poor, 50 percent fair, and 36 percent good. Hog and pig losses in January were 41 percent below average, 57 percent average and 2 percent above average. Cattle and calf losses were 44 percent below average, 54 percent average and 2 percent above average.

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist

Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

General Summary. Iowa temperatures averaged 15.1 degrees or 2.7 degrees below normal while precipitation totaled 0.90 inches or 0.05 inches below normal. This ranks as the 42nd coldest and 67th driest January among 139 years of state records.

Hay/Roughage Availability as of January 30, 2011

Item	Short (Percent)	Adequate (Percent)	Surplus (Percent)
Hay/Roughage	12	77	11

Hay/Roughage Quality as of January 30, 2011

Item	Poor (Percent)	Fair (Percent)	Good (Percent)
Hay/Roughage	14	50	36

Post-Harvest Conditions as of January 30, 2011

Item	None (Percent)	Light (Percent)	Moderate (Percent)	Heavy (Percent)
Grain movement	30	30	32	8

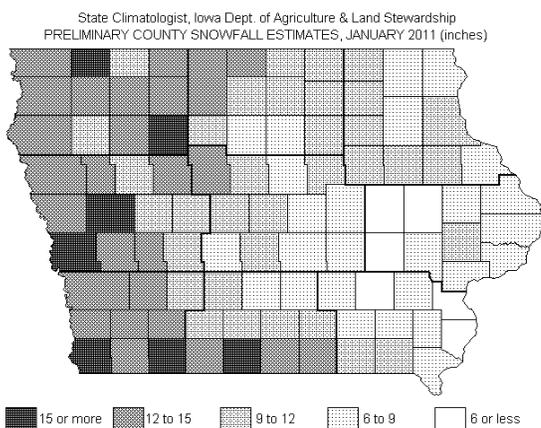
Snow Cover for the Month of January, 2011

Item	Districts									State (Inches)	Last Month (Inches)	Last Year (Inches)
	NW (Inches)	NC (Inches)	NE (Inches)	WC (Inches)	C (Inches)	EC (Inches)	SW (Inches)	SC (Inches)	SE (Inches)			
Snow cover	11	13	11	5	5	8	5	5	4	7	NA	12

Temperatures. Iowa temperatures were mostly above seasonal normals for the first and last week of the month but were generally below normal from the 8th through the 23rd. Elkader reported the lowest temperature of the month with a minimum of -30 degrees on the morning of the 21st. Daytime maximum temperatures never rose very high during the month as 45 degrees was the highest reading reported, coming at Shenandoah and Sidney on the 6th and again at Glenwood on the afternoon of the 28th. At some north central Iowa locations such as Mason City, Osage and Cresco the temperature never climbed above freezing during the month. The result is that very little snow melt occurred during January. Only three calendar months have seen a lower statewide maximum temperature extreme (February 2010 at 42 degrees and December 1983 and January 1979 at 40 degrees).

Heating Degree Day Totals. Home heating requirements, as estimated by heating degree day totals, averaged 4 percent less than last January and 5 percent more than normal. Heating degree day totals so far this winter season (since July 1) are running 4 percent less than last season at this time and 2 percent less than normal.

Precipitation. January was characterized by frequent light precipitation events. The exception came on the 9th-11th when the only large storm of the month brought a statewide average of 5.9 inches of snow. This storm brought widespread snowfall of 6 to 10 inches over western Iowa and 2 to 3 inches over the far east. Pocahontas reported the most snow during this storm with 12 inches. At Des Moines snow was recorded on all but five days during the month. Preliminary monthly snow totals varied from 3.9 inches at Belle Plaine to 21.5 inches at Lamoni. The statewide average snowfall was 10.5 inches, 3.2 inches above normal and ranks as the 24th snowiest January among 124 years of records. Snow cover at month's end varied from 2 to 4 inches over the southern one-third of Iowa to 10 to 20 inches over the northern third.



January 2011 Weather Summary For Iowa Agricultural Statistics Service Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION			HDD TOT	HDD DFN	DAYS OF 32 COLD	DAYS OF 28 COLD
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS				
North West District											
Estherville	34	-17	12	-2	0.13	-0.58	5	1,639	41	31	31
Sioux Center	37	-15	13	-4	0.51	-0.10	4	1,565	78	30	30
Spencer	34	-20	12	-2	0.39	-0.13	7	1,636	74	31	31
Spirit Lake	34	-17	10	-3	0.15	-0.39	5	1,637	44	30	30
North Central District											
Britt	33	-18	10	-5	0.81	-0.10	11	1,653	25	30	30
Humboldt	35	-14	12	-5	1.11	0.38	12	1,591	64	30	30
Mason City	32	-22	12	-2	0.25	-0.64	10	1,622	37	31	31
Osage	30	-19	10	-5	0.73	-0.14	4	1,695	61	31	31
North East District											
Decorah	36	-23	14	-2	0.58	-0.14	11	1,521	-9	30	30
Dubuque	42	-19	17	2	1.29	0.03	10	1,489	-3	31	31
Elkader	40	-28	13	-5	0.68	-0.28	8	1,620	116	31	31
Fayette	37	-22	9	-7	0.74	-0.20	6	1,732	132	31	31
Waterloo	37	-20	15	1	1.24	0.44	11	1,540	8	31	31
West Central District											
Carroll	41	-11	13	-4	1.32	0.55	9	1,592	122	31	31
Castana	40	-12	14	-6	1.18	0.63	11	1,584	197	31	31
Guthrie Center	41	-13	15	-4	0.93	0.09	7	1,557	116	31	31
Harlan	38	-10	14	-6	1.19	0.52	9	1,564	112	31	31
Jefferson	39	-10	14	-4	0.82	0.05	8	1,584	123	31	31
Logan	43	-16	15	-5	1.11	0.33	8	1,547	142	31	31
Rockwell City	37	-13	13	-5	1.01	0.36	7	1,618	97	31	31
Sac City	36	-14	12	-5	1.56	0.88	6	1,654	142	31	31
Sioux City	43	-11	15	-4	1.68	1.13	11	1,549	110	31	30
Central District											
Boone	39	-11	14	-4	0.92	0.01	8	1,580	101	31	31
Des Moines	41	-3	20	1	1.02	0.06	12	1,384	-1	31	30
Grundy Center	36	-18	13	-2	0.59	-0.27	5	1,604	73	31	31
Marshalltown	37	-13	16	-1	0.68	-0.15	7	1,502	7	31	31
Newton	38	-9	15	-5	0.43	-0.41	7	1,553	124	31	31
Perry	41	-6	15	-3	0.78	0.08	7	1,551	90	31	31
Toledo	38	-15	14	-3	0.33	-0.52	7	1,578	81	31	31
East Central District											
Cedar Rapids	46	-15	17	-1	0.71	-0.30	7	1,470	24	31	31
Davenport	54	-14	20	-1	0.61	-0.46	7	1,395	53	31	31
Iowa City	48	-9	20	-2	0.38	-0.62	6	1,400	58	31	31
Lowden	45	-22	15	-3	0.94	-0.25	11	1,547	71	31	31
Maquoketa	44	-21	14	-3	0.63	-0.48	10	1,562	84	31	31
Muscatine	56	-11	18	-3	0.97	-0.28	6	1,437	95	31	31
South West District											
Atlantic	41	-17	15	-3	0.99	0.27	11	1,531	111	31	31
Clarinda	44	-14	18	-3	0.72	-0.16	7	1,465	83	31	31
Glenwood	45	-1	17	-4	1.09	0.35	8	1,478	117	31	31
Red Oak	43	-12	18	-5	0.70	-0.10	7	1,456	81	31	31
Sidney	45	-5	18	-3	1.04	0.35	6	1,434	101	31	31
South Central District											
Allerton	41	-4	17	-4	1.10	0.10	12	1,475	94	31	31
Beaconsfield	41	-6	17	-4	1.28	0.58	9	1,475	95	31	31
Chariton	40	-10	16	-4	1.21	0.26	10	1,507	108	31	31
Indianola	40	-8	16	-4	0.99	0.03	8	1,465	57	30	30
Leon	41	-10	17	-3	1.04	0.07	9	1,467	93	31	31
South East District											
Bloomfield	49	-6	17	-6	1.27	0.15	12	1,468	114	31	31
Burlington	58	-6	21	-1	1.00	-0.24	5	1,340	31	31	30
Ottumwa	48	-7	19	-2	0.85	-0.13	9	1,403	67	31	31
Washington	53	-9	18	-5	0.86	-0.23	8	1,458	65	31	31

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.