



USDA National Agricultural Statistical Service, Iowa Field Office • 210 Walnut, Room 833 • Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2195  
Phone 515-284-4340 • 1-800-772-0825 • Fax 515-284-4342 • [nass-ia@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ia@nass.usda.gov)  
In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Issued April 17, 2012 Vol 12 - 07

For the week ending April 15, 2012

Severe thunderstorms and tornadoes struck the state on Saturday, April 14. Farmers fear hay growth was affected during the early part of the week after most of the state received a hard freeze.

There were 4.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the past week. The widespread rain improved moisture levels throughout the state. Topsoil moisture levels improved to 6 percent very short, 21 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture also improved and is now rated 14 percent very short, 31 percent short, 53 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

Farmers were able to get some corn planted before this week's storms. Five percent of Iowa's corn acreage has been planted compared with 1 percent at this time last year and the five year average of 3 percent. Oat acreage planted was 87 percent complete, ahead of last year's 57 percent and five-year average of 40 percent. Forty-five percent of the oat acreage has emerged which is 9 days ahead of normal.

Pasture and range condition rated 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Just over three-quarters of Iowa's pasture and range land is now rated good to excellent, an 8 percentage point increase from the previous week.

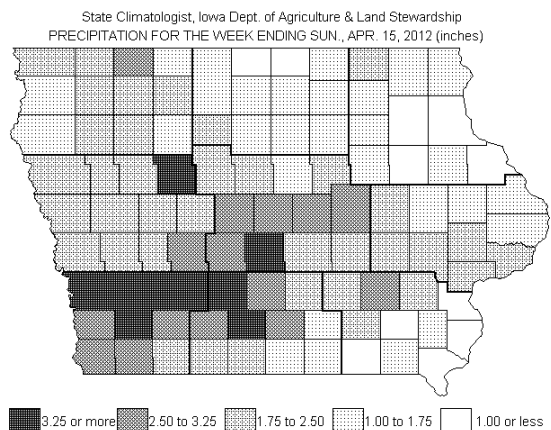
### IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

It was a very eventful week across Iowa. A freeze was recorded over portions of northern Iowa on Monday (9<sup>th</sup>) morning with temperatures falling as low as 25 degrees at Spencer. Much colder weather prevailed on Tuesday (10<sup>th</sup>) and Wednesday (11<sup>th</sup>) mornings. All but a few far

southern Iowa locations recorded a freeze on Tuesday morning with a hard freeze over much of the state. Sibley reported the lowest temperature on Tuesday at 16 degrees. Unfortunately it was a little colder yet on Wednesday morning with all reporting points with the exception of a few locations right on the Mississippi River recording a freeze. Sibley was again the cold spot at 15 degrees. Finally, much of the northeast one-half of the state endured another freeze on Thursday (12<sup>th</sup>) morning, however, temperatures were not as low as seen earlier in the week. Much warmer weather returned for the weekend with temperatures well above normal on Saturday (14<sup>th</sup>) and Sunday (15<sup>th</sup>). Waterloo reported the highest temperature reaching 77 degrees on Sunday. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 1.4 degrees above normal. Much needed rain fell statewide late in the week but was accompanied by severe weather over much of southern Iowa on Saturday evening. Showers and thunderstorms brought rain statewide from Thursday evening to midday on Friday with a few areas in the southwest seeing over one inch. Much heavier rain fell on Saturday and Saturday night with two to three inch amounts common over much of southwestern and central Iowa. Very intense rain fell with the Saturday storms in some areas. Showers and thunderstorms were also scattered across Iowa on Sunday but amounts were mostly light. Weekly rain totals varied from 0.61 inch at Fairfield to 6.59 inches at Red Oak. The statewide average precipitation was 1.99 inches, or more than double the weekly normal of 0.80 inch. This was Iowa's wettest week since late June 2011. Severe storms were reported from 26 southern Iowa counties on Saturday with hail, high winds, brief torrential rains and a few tornadoes reported. The worst damage was reported from Thurman and Creston from tornadoes rated as EF-2 intensity. Finally, soil temperatures as of Sunday (15<sup>th</sup>) were averaging in the upper 50s statewide.

### Crop Conditions as of April 15, 2012

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Range & Pasture .....	1	3	19	55	22



### Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 15, 2012

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr Avg
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Corn planted .....	5	4	5	7	4	4	6	7	9	5	1	1	3
Oats planted .....	93	94	86	86	85	90	85	80	93	87	75	57	40
Oats emerged .....	60	46	40	40	50	48	45	47	45	45	23	8	6

### Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 15, 2012

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)
Days suitable .....	4.3	4.8	5.1	4.4	4.4	5.0	4.1	3.8	4.9	4.5	5.9	3.5
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	9	12	9	8	1	2	0	0	6	6	12	0
Short .....	17	54	21	24	9	6	3	0	42	21	31	3
Adequate .....	72	34	65	65	82	83	71	79	51	66	55	80
Surplus .....	2	0	5	3	8	9	26	21	1	7	2	17
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	24	36	9	18	4	5	0	0	7	14	18	0
Short .....	48	40	27	42	27	22	11	11	34	31	33	3
Adequate .....	26	24	61	38	68	70	83	83	58	53	47	83
Surplus .....	2	0	3	2	1	3	6	6	1	2	2	14

**Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office.**  
**For the week ending: 7:00 am Sunday, April 15, 2012, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.**

Station	Current Week						Since April 1			
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation		GDD Base 50F	
	High	Low	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total	DFN	Total	DFN
North West District										
Estherville .....	68	17	47	4	1.50	0.86	1.50	0.17	63	63
Sioux Center .....	71	21	50	3	1.13	0.57	1.13	-0.06	106	82
Spencer .....	69	17	48	3	1.93	1.30	1.93	0.66	87	85
Spirit Lake .....	71	24	49	6	1.40	0.84	1.40	0.22	74	72
North Central District										
Britt .....	67	23	46	-1	1.40	0.70	1.44	0.02	39	39
Dakota City .....	68	21	48	0	2.05	1.35	2.05	0.61	61	52
Mason City .....	70	18	48	3	1.19	0.51	1.24	-0.15	51	49
Osage .....	67	24	46	0	1.35	0.58	1.38	-0.18	24	24
North East District										
Decorah .....	75	23	49	4	1.85	1.04	1.87	0.23	50	42
Dubuque .....	66	26	48	2	0.71	-0.13	0.89	-0.90	35	27
Elkader .....	72	22	44	-3	0.82	0.08	0.86	-0.65	25	17
Fayette .....	71	24	46	-2	0.96	0.20	0.99	-0.55	31	31
Waterloo .....	70	23	49	3	1.04	0.27	1.08	-0.49	51	43
West Central District										
Carroll .....	71	23	47	0	2.44	1.68	2.44	0.88	80	72
Castana .....	71	25	49	-1	1.72	1.09	1.73	0.45	96	60
Guthrie Center .....	70	21	48	-1	3.23	2.47	3.23	1.67	95	77
Harlan .....	73	23	49	-1	1.85	1.15	1.86	0.43	99	89
Jefferson .....	70	22	48	1	1.98	1.22	1.99	0.43	79	68
Logan .....	74	26	50	0	2.18	1.54	2.21	0.89	99	73
Rockwell City .....	70	24	48	-1	3.65	3.02	3.65	2.36	70	64
Sac City .....	69	21	46	1	1.90	1.27	1.90	0.55	73	71
Sioux City .....	73	26	51	2	3.61	3.10	3.61	2.54	116	95
Central District										
Boone .....	69	26	48	0	2.66	1.89	2.67	1.10	66	50
Des Moines .....	70	31	53	4	4.41	3.64	4.55	2.93	118	86
Grundy Center .....	69	23	47	2	1.65	0.92	1.70	0.20	47	45
Marshalltown .....	69	22	49	3	1.99	1.25	2.06	0.52	72	64
Newton .....	68	25	48	-1	2.05	1.30	2.06	0.53	72	52
Perry .....	69	23	48	0	2.47	1.76	2.65	1.19	74	64
Toledo .....	67	23	46	-2	2.78	2.04	2.95	1.43	49	43
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids .....	66	24	48	0	1.42	0.67	1.55	0.00	56	40
Davenport .....	69	25	51	2	2.03	1.26	2.85	1.25	71	39
Iowa City .....	68	28	50	-1	2.26	1.41	2.41	0.65	72	27
Lowden .....	69	22	47	-2	1.93	1.04	3.32	1.50	41	31
Maquoketa .....	65	24	46	-3	1.57	0.80	1.69	0.12	30	22
Muscatine .....	69	27	48	-3	1.27	0.44	1.66	-0.05	56	16
South West District										
Atlantic .....	73	26	49	2	2.93	2.23	2.99	1.56	92	69
Clarinda .....	73	28	51	3	3.56	2.79	3.96	2.39	104	81
Glenwood .....	75	30	51	1	2.77	2.13	2.92	1.61	105	67
Red Oak .....	74	30	52	1	6.59	5.79	6.74	5.10	106	81
Sidney .....	74	32	52	3	3.27	2.57	3.62	2.15	113	76
South Central District										
Allerton .....	71	28	49	0	1.20	0.43	1.98	0.40	83	57
Beaconsfield .....	70	27	50	1	2.36	1.59	2.59	1.02	87	70
Chariton .....	71	21	48	-2	3.55	2.71	3.77	2.06	84	71
Indianola .....	69	26	49	-1	2.73	1.90	2.73	1.04	90	74
Leon .....	73	25	49	-1	2.00	1.19	2.36	0.71	91	72
South East District										
Bloomfield .....	71	30	50	-3	0.75	-0.05	1.14	-0.54	82	54
Burlington .....	71	28	52	2	0.76	-0.06	0.78	-0.92	109	60
Ottumwa .....	69	24	50	-2	2.16	1.40	2.38	0.82	90	48
Washington .....	70	26	48	-4	1.84	1.11	2.10	0.57	78	40

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 2012: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.