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In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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For the week ending April 29, 2012

Corn planting progressed rapidly in most areas as Iowa's farmers took full advantage of dry fields early in the week. Corn planting advanced at least 25 percentage points in each district of the state. However, the weather became much cooler and wetter at the end of the week ending planting activities.

There were 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared with just 1.8 days the previous week. Topsoil moisture levels improved to 1 percent very short, 7 percent short, 76 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture also improved and is now rated 7 percent very short, 21 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus.

Despite receiving rainfall late in the week, corn planting advanced 41 percentage points and now stands at 50 percent complete, compared with 7 percent at this time last year and the five year average of 32 percent. Five percent of the corn crop has emerged, 10 days ahead of normal. The State's soybean planting is 3 percent complete with Southeast Iowa leading the way with 12 percent planted. Oat planting was 98 percent complete, ahead of last year's 80 percent and the five-year average of 76 percent. Seventy-six percent of the expected oat acreage has emerged, well ahead of last year's 38 percent and the five-year average of 36 percent. Oat condition improved to 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 11 percent excellent.

Sixty-seven percent of Iowa's pasture and range land is now rated good to excellent, a 2 percentage point decrease from the previous week. Pasture and range condition rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 20 percent excellent.

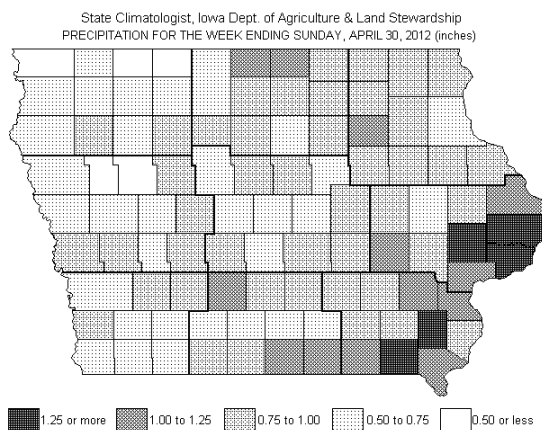
IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

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

Iowa experienced a rather typical week of spring weather characterized by widely varying temperatures and occasional showers and thunderstorms. The reporting week began on the cold side of normal with morning lows mostly in the 30's on Monday (24th) with a freeze reported in a few northwestern locations. A rapid warm-up commenced on Tuesday (25th) with afternoon highs ranging from the upper 60s northeast to upper 80s west. Wednesday (26th) was the warmest day of the week in most areas with highs climbing into the low 90s at a few southwest Iowa locations. Temperatures dropped to more seasonal levels on Thursday (27th) and were well below normal over the weekend with daytime highs mostly in the 50s. Temperature extremes for the week ranged from Monday morning lows of 28 degrees at Battle Creek, Sibley and Spencer to a Wednesday afternoon high of 92 degrees at Red Oak. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged two to three degrees below normal across the east to three to four degrees above normal in the west with a statewide average of 0.6 degrees above normal. Dry weather prevailed in most areas through Friday morning. However, rain fell statewide from Friday afternoon into Saturday morning with rain amounts around one-half inch in most areas. Rain also fell over the southeast three-fourths of the state on Sunday with greatest amounts of around an inch in parts of east central and southeast Iowa. Weekly rain totals varied from 0.34 near Lake Park to 2.01 inches at Keosauqua. The statewide average rainfall was 0.83 inch or just a little less than the weekly normal of 0.95 inch. Soil temperatures as of Sunday (29th) were averaging near fifty degrees statewide.

Crop Conditions as of April 29, 2012

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Oats	1	2	23	63	11
Range & Pasture	1	4	28	47	20



Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 29, 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	61	41	31	59	52	44	57	38	61	50	9	7	32
Corn emerged	3	2	2	8	6	3	5	5	16	5	1	0	3
Oats planted	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	95	99	98	94	80	76
Oats emerged	91	80	70	78	92	76	82	71	75	76	54	38	36

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 29, 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	4.1	3.8	3.9	4.9	4.1	4.6	4.7	4.1	4.6	4.3	1.8	1.4
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	0
Short	14	8	8	7	2	1	3	2	15	7	10	1
Adequate	82	83	70	73	70	76	85	79	71	76	72	67
Surplus	2	6	20	20	28	23	12	19	11	16	16	32
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	25	10	6	3	2	2	3	0	6	7	10	0
Short	35	35	18	26	15	8	7	7	27	21	24	1
Adequate	39	54	66	68	70	79	80	76	65	65	59	72
Surplus	1	1	10	3	13	11	10	17	2	7	7	27

Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office.
For the week ending: 7:00 am Sunday, April 29, 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	88	33	54	5	0.40	-0.30	3.42	0.69	128	93	
Sioux Center	88	31	58	5	0.65	0.02	2.83	0.44	192	93	
Spencer	87	28	55	4	0.53	-0.17	3.84	1.21	161	109	
Spirit Lake	82	34	53	3	0.25	-0.38	3.72	1.33	111	59	
North Central District											
Britt	84	35	52	-1	0.47	-0.30	3.95	1.01	80	41	
Dakota City	88	36	55	2	0.56	-0.21	4.72	1.77	120	51	
Mason City	82	33	53	2	0.38	-0.39	3.60	0.72	104	55	
Osage	76	35	51	-2	0.37	-0.47	4.50	1.31	61	17	
North East District											
Decorah	72	35	51	-2	0.31	-0.53	4.25	0.93	96	35	
Dubuque	69	35	50	-3	0.51	-0.40	2.08	-1.53	74	14	
Elkader	70	31	48	-5	0.41	-0.43	3.00	-0.12	48	-13	
Fayette	74	36	51	-2	0.56	-0.29	3.30	0.09	67	30	
Waterloo	78	37	53	-1	0.51	-0.33	3.44	0.23	108	44	
West Central District											
Carroll	87	34	56	3	0.37	-0.47	3.44	0.23	154	91	
Castana	87	37	57	2	0.46	-0.27	2.86	0.19	172	56	
Guthrie Center	88	31	55	2	0.69	-0.15	4.57	1.39	170	88	
Harlan	89	33	57	2	0.46	-0.36	2.89	-0.12	183	116	
Jefferson	91	35	55	3	0.30	-0.54	3.18	-0.03	151	81	
Logan	89	30	57	2	0.45	-0.35	3.06	0.22	187	90	
Rockwell City	87	36	55	1	0.63	-0.12	5.45	2.72	135	77	
Sac City	87	35	54	2	0.20	-0.54	3.40	0.62	134	85	
Sioux City	89	31	59	5	0.48	-0.16	4.82	2.55	221	130	
Central District											
Boone	87	35	55	2	0.55	-0.29	4.22	0.99	135	58	
Des Moines	90	39	59	4	0.55	-0.25	5.73	2.47	226	118	
Grundy Center	83	38	54	3	0.35	-0.49	3.98	0.87	101	55	
Marshalltown	85	35	55	3	0.47	-0.32	3.39	0.29	143	80	
Newton	83	38	55	0	0.43	-0.41	3.12	-0.04	137	47	
Perry	90	34	56	4	0.55	-0.27	3.95	0.90	148	81	
Toledo	80	37	53	1	0.44	-0.41	4.25	1.09	99	44	
East Central District											
Cedar Rapids	78	36	53	-2	0.74	-0.03	3.24	0.15	114	35	
Davenport	81	33	53	-3	0.85	0.07	4.13	0.98	136	28	
Iowa City	79	36	54	-3	0.73	-0.18	4.06	0.48	144	10	
Lowden	80	32	52	-2	0.73	-0.18	4.83	1.19	89	25	
Maquoketa	78	32	50	-3	0.55	-0.22	2.77	-0.34	67	10	
Muscatine	80	34	54	-3	0.48	-0.36	2.59	-0.80	121	-3	
South West District											
Atlantic	91	30	56	3	0.32	-0.45	3.47	0.55	177	87	
Clarinda	91	33	57	3	0.24	-0.65	4.43	1.14	201	112	
Glenwood	89	32	57	2	0.40	-0.43	3.40	0.53	199	83	
Red Oak	92	34	59	3	0.24	-0.66	7.24	3.86	213	116	
Sidney	91	39	60	4	0.43	-0.40	4.14	1.07	219	101	
South Central District											
Allerton	88	37	55	2	0.32	-0.52	2.52	-0.71	156	61	
Beaconsfield	88	37	56	2	0.33	-0.51	3.43	0.24	167	89	
Chariton	88	35	55	2	0.08	-0.81	4.38	0.94	151	81	
Indianola	87	37	56	2	0.53	-0.38	3.88	0.40	165	89	
Leon	89	35	56	3	0.35	-0.56	2.99	-0.44	170	90	
South East District											
Bloomfield	86	40	57	1	0.40	-0.49	1.92	-1.49	166	66	
Burlington	80	35	56	0	0.40	-0.44	1.88	-1.50	200	60	
Ottumwa	80	37	55	-2	0.25	-0.59	3.45	0.26	169	42	
Washington	82	34	54	-3	0.93	0.11	3.52	0.40	147	29	

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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