



Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending April 26, 2015
Issued April 27, 2015

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Rain events and cool weather slowed planting in Iowa during the week ending April 26, 2015, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Statewide there were 2.7 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Activities for the week included manure hauling, tillage, anhydrous application, and limited planting.

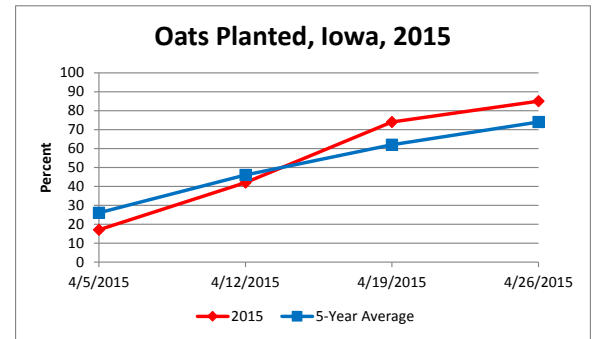
Topsoil moisture levels improved to 0 percent very short, 10 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 10 percent surplus. It was the first April week since 2011 with no topsoil rated very short. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 2 percent very short, 14 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus.

Fourteen percent of the **corn** acreage has been planted, just ahead of last year, but 4 days behind the 5-year average. Farmers in central Iowa led the way with more than one-quarter of their corn crop planted. Eighty-five percent of the **oat** crop has been planted, almost two weeks ahead of last year, and 1 week ahead of average. Oats emerged reached 41 percent, 9 days ahead of last year, and 1 day ahead of normal. North central and northeast Iowa lagged behind, with only 22 and 23 percent of oats emerged, respectively.

Pasture condition improved to 56 percent good to excellent. Pastures continued to green up, though cool weather has slowed growth. Cattle and hog conditions were reported as good. Poultry producers were concerned with the recent outbreak of avian influenza.

Crop conditions as of April 26, 2015

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture & Range ...	2	7	35	50	6



Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 26, 2015

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)	(percent)
Oats planted	95	79	79	90	92	91	94	82	90	85	74	66	74	
Oats emerged	45	22	23	61	61	53	74	41	50	41	21	22	38	
Corn planted	19	8	9	10	26	15	7	9	19	14	7	13	24	

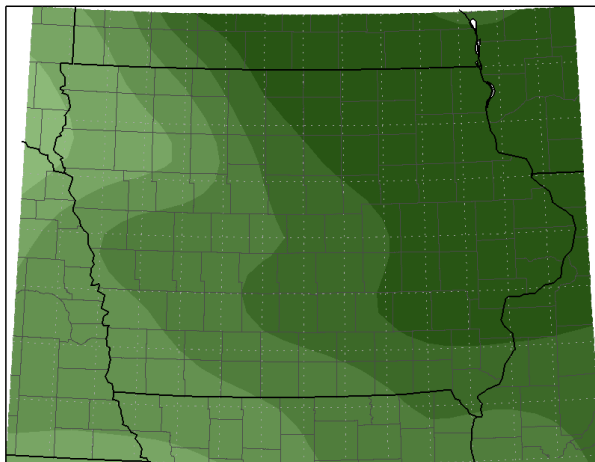
Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 26, 2015

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)
Days suitable	3.3	2.3	2.9	2.3	1.9	3.8	1.9	2.1	3.8	2.7	4.4	3.0	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	4	
Short	23	1	14	5	7	15	2	11	19	10	13	16	
Adequate	71	83	82	80	84	78	78	73	72	80	76	67	
Surplus	4	16	4	14	9	6	20	16	7	10	10	13	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	5	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	6	2	2	14	
Short	20	6	21	8	13	24	5	14	24	14	18	36	
Adequate	72	87	72	86	79	71	87	79	68	80	76	46	
Surplus	3	6	6	5	7	3	7	5	2	4	4	4	

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

The past reporting week brought unseasonably cool weather throughout the week with the exception of far northwest Iowa where temperatures climbed above normal on Friday (24th). Freezes were widespread on Wednesday (22nd) and Thursday (23rd) mornings with scattered freezes on Tuesday (21st) and Saturday (25th) mornings. Temperatures fell as low as 23 degrees at Sibley on Wednesday morning, 22 degrees at Cresco, Decorah and Elkader on Thursday morning and 24 degrees at Elkader on Saturday morning. A hard freeze occurred as far south as the Missouri border on Thursday morning in valley bottom locations. On the other extreme, Friday afternoon temperatures reached 76 degrees at Hawarden and Sioux City. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged from two degrees below normal over the far northwest to eight degrees below normal across the northeast one-third of Iowa. The statewide average temperature for the week was 6.2 degrees below normal. Meanwhile, there was some light rain across northeast and east central Iowa on Monday (20th) morning and also on Tuesday over parts of southwest and south central Iowa. However, nearly all of the week's rain fell between Friday morning and Saturday morning with greatest amounts across the southern one-half of the state. Weekly rain totals varied from just a trace at Cherokee, Rock Rapids and Sheldon to 1.61 inches at Camanche (Clinton Co.). The state wide average precipitation was 0.54 inches while normal for the week is 0.93 inches. Soil temperatures at the four inch depth were averaging near fifty degrees as of Sunday (26th).

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean
April 20, 2015 to April 26, 2015

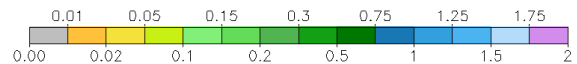
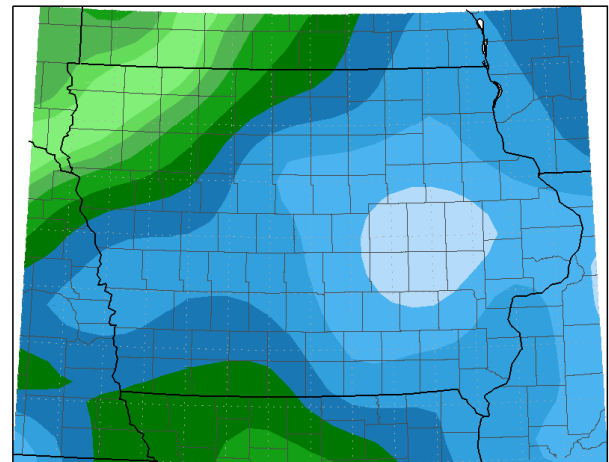


Mean period is 1981-2010.



Midwestern Regional Climate Center
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Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 20, 2015 to April 26, 2015



Midwestern Regional Climate Center
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Access the Iowa State Climatologist's website at: <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/climatology.asp>

Iowa Environmental Mesonet data, courtesy of Iowa State University of Science and technology, is available at: <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/agweather/>

Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: <http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>