United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending August 2, 2015
Issued August 3, 2015

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Although heavy rains were reported in some areas of the State; drier than normal conditions prevailed in other areas. Overall, Iowa farmers had 4.6 **days suitable for fieldwork** for the week ending August 2, 2015, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Activities for the week included cutting hay and fungicide and insecticide applications. Humidity and heat aided crop development, but precipitation made harvesting hay and oats difficult in some areas. There were reports of weed and insect problems in soybeans and fungus in corn fields.

Topsoil moisture levels rated 0 percent very short, 6 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 14 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 0 percent very short, 6 percent short, 81 percent adequate and 13 percent surplus. South central Iowa saw the largest increase in topsoil moisture levels, with 60 percent surplus, up from 51 percent the prior week.

Ninety-three percent of the **corn** crop reached the silking stage or beyond, with 30 percent reaching the dough stage or beyond. Corn condition rated 83 percent good to excellent. **Soybeans** blooming or beyond reached 87 percent, 2 days behind 2014. Fifty-seven percent of soybeans were setting pods. Soybean condition rated 79 percent good to excellent this week, up 3 percentage points from the previous week. Seventy-eight percent of the **oat** crop for grain or seed has been harvested, 5 days ahead of last year, but slightly behind the 5-year average.

The second cutting of **alfalfa hay** reached 79 percent, 3 days behind last year, and one week behind the average, due to continued wet conditions. The third cutting of alfalfa hay is 13 percent complete, 8 days behind average. **Hay condition** was rated at 69 percent good to excellent, while **pasture condition** rated 76 percent good to excellent. Livestock experienced normal summer heat stress.

Crop conditions as of August 2, 2015

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn, all	0	3	14	59	24
Soybeans	0	3	18	60	19
Hay, all	1	6	24	54	15
Pasture & Range	0	3	21	58	18

Field Work and Crop Progress as of August 2, 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)
Oats harvested	95	73	79	88	89	77	86	62	81	78	57	65	79
Corn silking	95	98	92	96	97	92	82	90	94	93	83	92	88
Corn dough	23	15	31	32	52	29	27	21	40	30	11	33	22
Soybeans blooming	97	97	93	95	95	90	63	60	76	87	78	90	89
Soybeans setting pods	68	66	50	60	70	65	35	33	46	57	37	62	56
Alfalfa Hay, second cutting	99	95	95	96	92	95	72	41	75	79	68	83	88
Alfalfa Hay, third cutting	36	10	26	6	14	17	1	0	18	13	3	8	23

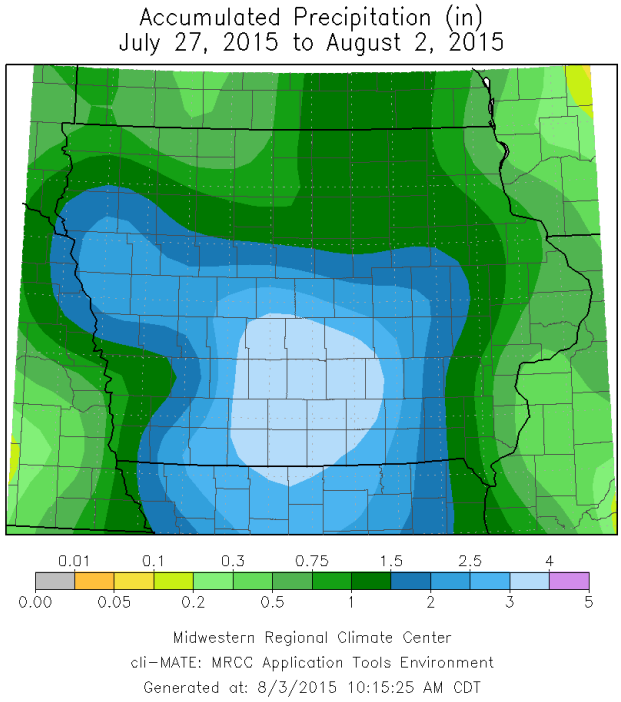
Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of August 2, 2015

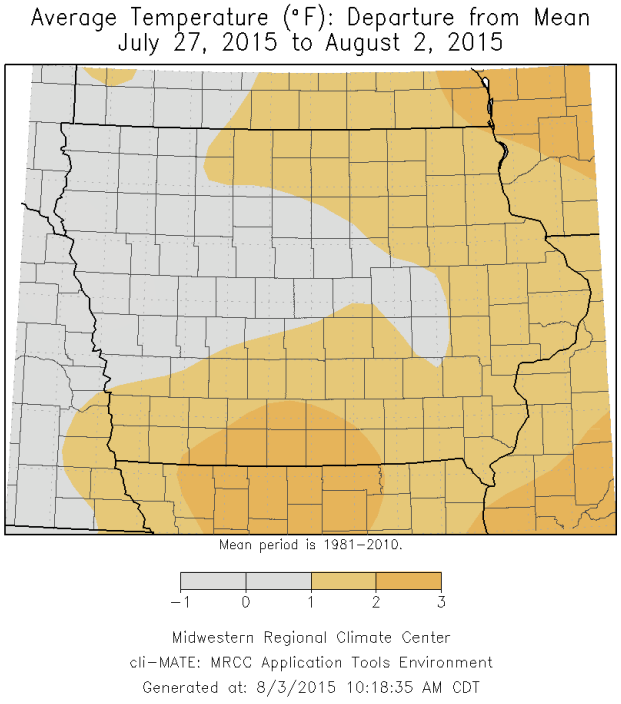
Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable	5.0	5.1	5.2	3.6	4.7	5.9	4.0	2.2	4.0	4.6	5.0	6.4
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Short	21	8	7	5	3	6	2	0	2	6	6	21
Adequate	74	86	88	86	82	83	79	40	65	80	78	72
Surplus	4	5	5	9	15	10	19	60	33	14	16	4
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Short	18	6	8	3	2	5	2	1	4	6	5	15
Adequate	75	90	89	88	80	80	78	44	67	81	79	79
Surplus	4	3	3	9	18	15	20	55	28	13	16	4

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

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

The past reporting week began with very warm and humid weather prevailing through Tuesday (28th). Actual temperatures peaked at 95 degrees at Lamoni while the heat index reached 109 degrees at Burlington on Tuesday. A wide band of thunderstorms brought rain from northwest, through central, into south central Iowa on Monday (27th). Another area of thunderstorms moved through all but far northwest Iowa between early Tuesday (28th) morning and early Wednesday (29th) morning. Torrential rains fell with this second round of storms on Tuesday night across parts of south central Iowa. Cooler and mostly dry weather prevailed on Wednesday and Thursday with temperatures falling as low as 52 degrees at Sheldon on Thursday (30th) morning. Warmer and more humid weather returned for the weekend with scattered thunderstorms over the southern one-half of the state. Sunday (2nd) was the warmest day of the weekend with Donnellson reaching 94 degrees. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 1.5 degrees above normal. Weekly rain totals varied from only 0.09 inches at Oakland and 0.10 inches at Bellevue to 7.46 inches near Spring Hill in Warren County. The statewide average precipitation was 1.63 inches while normal for the week is 0.94 inches. The statewide average precipitation has been above normal for seven of the past eight weeks. However, precipitation amounts have been highly variable over the state during this eight-week period with very heavy rains over much of the southern one-third of Iowa while portions of the northern one-third have been drier than usual.





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