



Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending August 23, 2015
Issued August 24, 2015

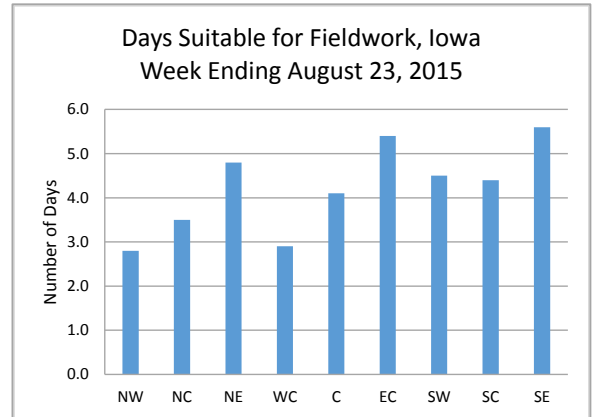
Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Above normal precipitation in western Iowa drove the State average down to 4.1 **days suitable for fieldwork**, while drier conditions allowed farmers more than 5 days suitable in east central and southeastern Iowa for the week ending August 23, 2015, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Activities for the week included cutting hay, harvesting oats, and fungicide and insecticide applications. There were scattered reports of aphids in fields, as well as minor sudden death syndrome in soybean fields.

Topsoil moisture levels rated 1 percent very short, 9 percent short, 78 percent adequate and 12 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 1 percent very short, 8 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 11 percent surplus. Heavy rains in northwest Iowa elevated subsoil moisture levels up 10 percentage points to 89 percent adequate to surplus this week.

Eighty-nine percent of the **corn** crop reached the dough stage or beyond, with 34 percent dented or beyond, 4 days behind the 5-year average. Scattered reports of corn reaching maturity were received this week. Corn condition rated 82 percent good to excellent. **Soybeans** blooming neared completion this week, while 90 percent of soybeans were setting pods, with a few reports of soybeans starting to turn color. Soybean condition rated 77 percent good to excellent. **Oats** harvested for grain or seed was nearing completion.

The second cutting of **alfalfa hay** reached 97 percent complete, while the third cutting of alfalfa hay was 57 percent complete, 4 days behind average. **Hay condition** rated 66 percent good to excellent, while **pasture condition** rated 67 percent good to excellent. Livestock conditions were reported as normal.



Crop conditions as of August 23, 2015

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn, all.....	1	3	14	56	26
Soybeans.....	1	4	18	56	21
Hay, all.....	1	6	27	50	16
Pasture & Range....	1	6	26	53	14

Field Work and Crop Progress as of August 23, 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)
Corn dough.....	91	90	90	90	97	90	78	82	82	89	74	86	78
Corn dented.....	40	14	23	43	50	32	23	37	38	34	14	31	44
Soybeans setting pods.....	99	97	94	97	96	89	68	70	82	90	84	93	92
Alfalfa Hay, third cutting.....	87	59	81	63	65	76	43	20	52	57	45	45	63

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of August 23, 2015

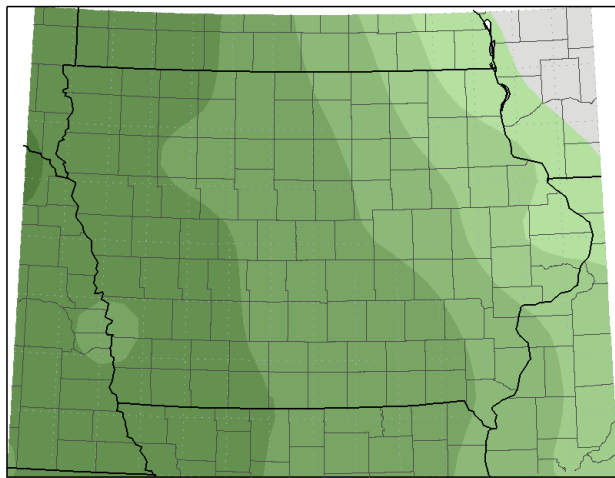
Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable	2.8	3.5	4.8	2.9	4.1	5.4	4.5	4.4	5.6	4.1	5.9	4.4
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	0	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	5
Short	14	9	25	4	4	11	2	1	5	9	13	20
Adequate	75	81	70	85	81	79	81	70	81	78	76	71
Surplus	11	9	1	11	15	9	17	29	14	12	10	4
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	2	2	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	4
Short	9	10	21	2	4	13	1	0	6	8	11	21
Adequate	83	86	74	89	78	77	80	67	81	80	78	73
Surplus	6	2	2	9	18	9	19	33	13	11	10	2

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

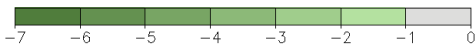
Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

Iowa experienced its coolest week since the last week of May and the wettest week since June 2014. Rain fell over the northwest one-half of Iowa from late Sunday (16th) afternoon into Monday (17th) afternoon with torrential rain falling over a wide area from eastern Plymouth County to southwest Kossuth and northwest Humboldt counties. Additional rain fell statewide between Monday afternoon and Tuesday (18th) night with a broad area of one to two inch amounts over the northwest two-thirds of Iowa. Some light rain fell over much of the state on Wednesday (19th). Dry weather prevailed on Thursday, Friday and into Saturday before another round of thunderstorms developed in western Iowa Saturday afternoon and brought rain to all but the far northwest portion of the state. Overall weekly rain totals varied from only 0.21 inches at Fort Madison to 9.12 inches at Cherokee and 8.16 inches at Remsen. The statewide average precipitation was 2.59 inches while normal for the week is 0.93 inches. Despite the recent widespread heavy rains there are a few areas in the state that have been missed, particularly the northeast corner, and could use some rain. Meanwhile, temperatures began the reporting week above normal over all but northwest Iowa on Monday (17th) with the temperature reaching 91 degrees at Donnellson. However, much cooler air moved into northwest Iowa on Monday and across all but far eastern Iowa on Tuesday. Wednesday (19th) and Thursday (20th) were the coolest days with daytime highs of only 61 degrees recorded at both Northwood and Anamosa on Wednesday while Thursday morning lows dipped to 44 degrees at Sheldon, Sibley and Sioux Center. A few areas warmed slightly above normal on Saturday (22nd) before much cooler air again moved into the state on Sunday (23rd) when Northwood saw an afternoon high of only 66 degrees. The week as a whole averaged 4.7 degrees cooler than normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from Mean
August 17, 2015 to August 23, 2015

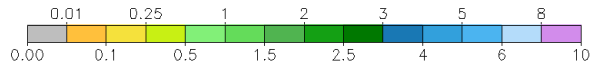
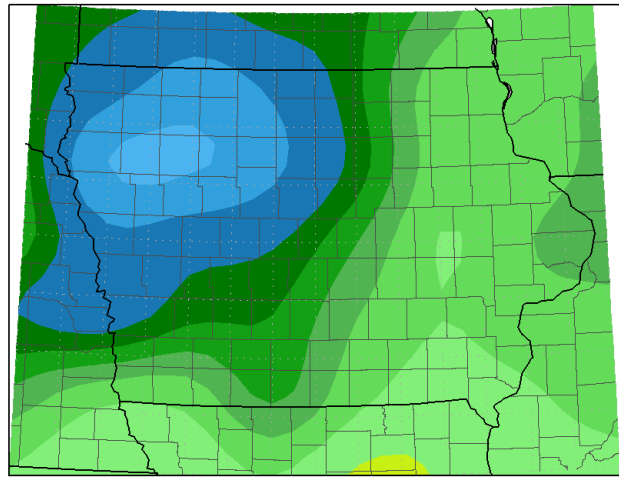


Mean period is 1981-2010.



Midwestern Regional Climate Center
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Accumulated Precipitation (in)
August 17, 2015 to August 23, 2015



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