

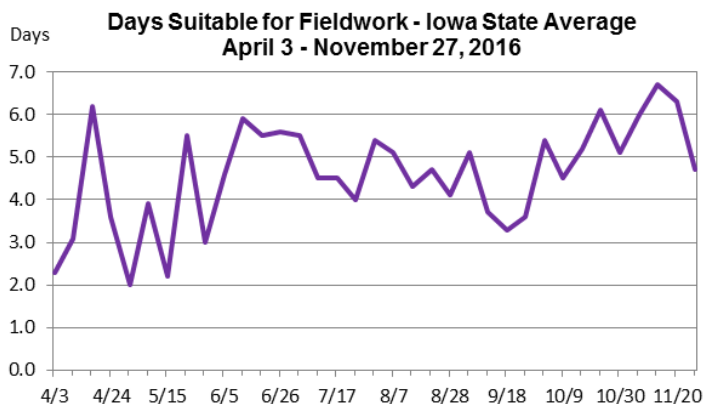
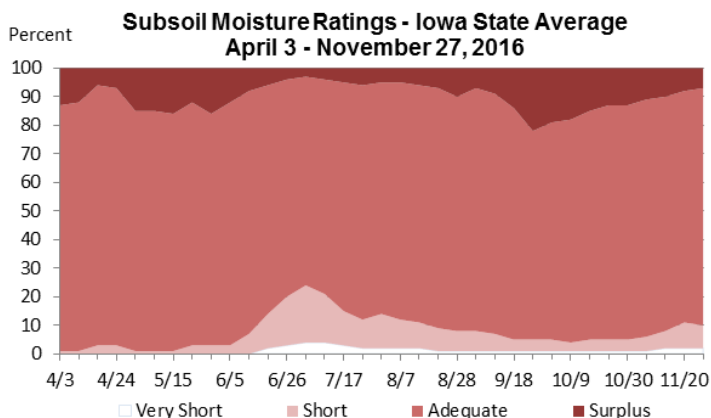
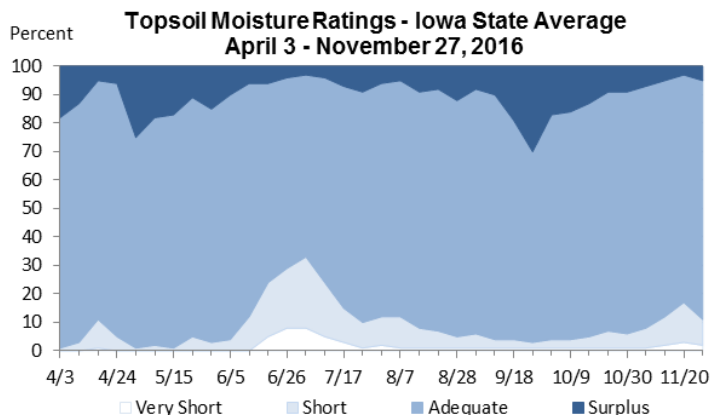


2016 IOWA CROP PROGRESS REVIEW

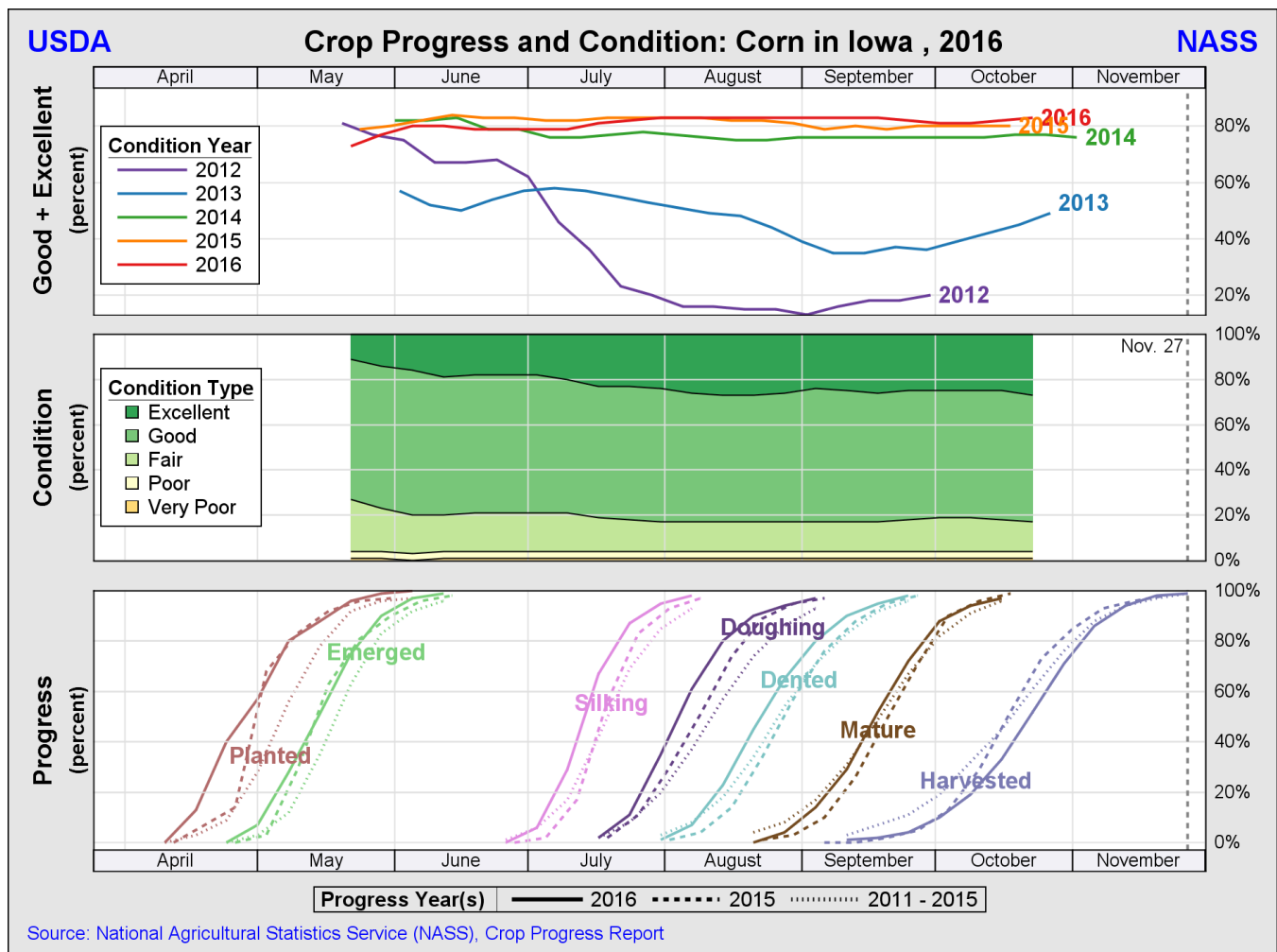
The Crop Progress and Condition Report is made possible by the dedication of our volunteer Crop Progress Reporters. Thank you for your help!

Review of the 2016 Crop Year:

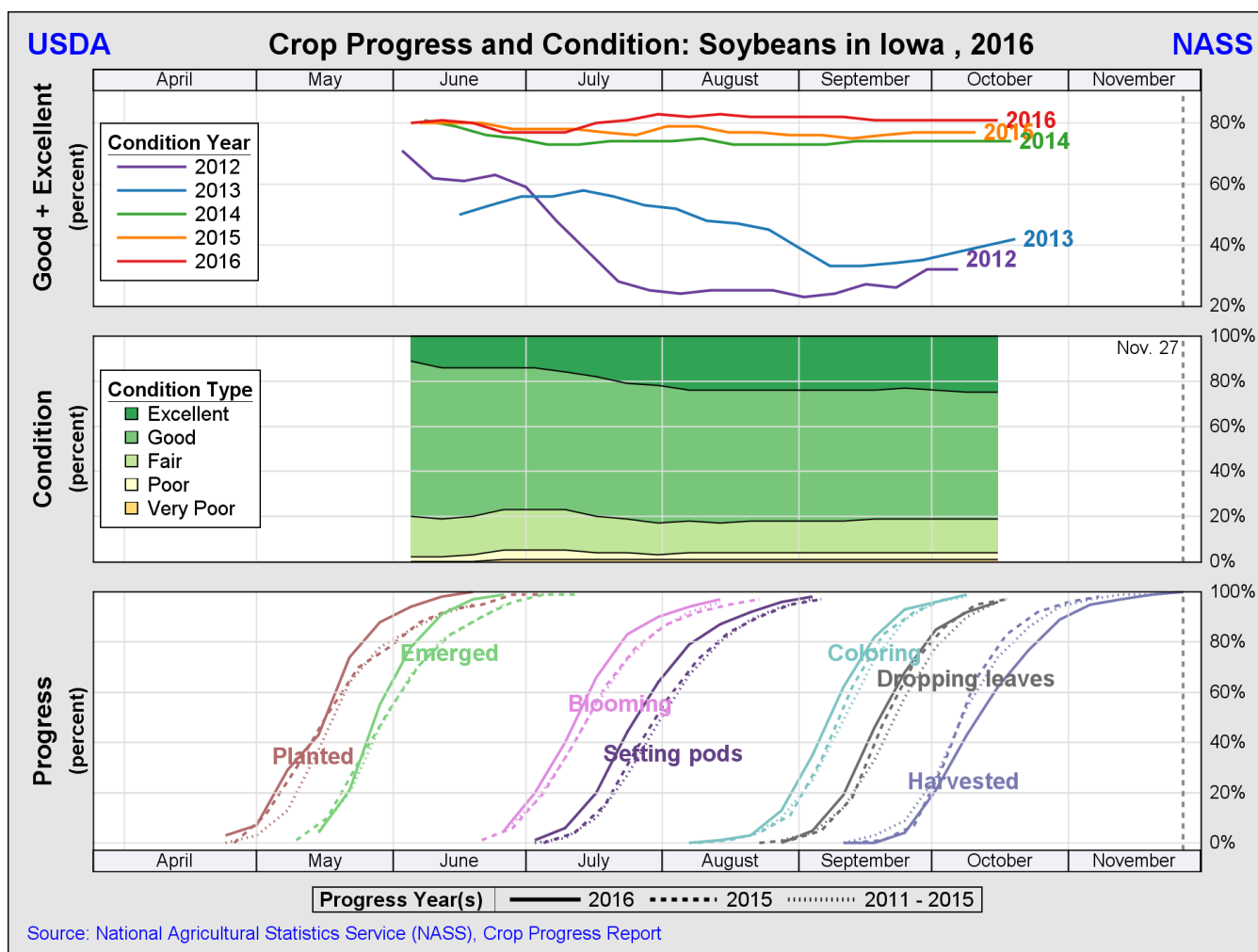
Planting progress was slowed by precipitation at the start of the season but then advanced rapidly. Corn, soybean and oat planting progress remained ahead of the five-year average from mid-April until complete. The planting of corn was completed by the end of May and soybeans wrapped in mid-June. Rain in mid-May left some fields saturated but conditions improved in June. The week ending June 12 saw the second highest number of days suitable for fieldwork for the season to that point with 5.9 days suitable. Until August, crop development was either equal to or ahead of the average pace. Scattered but frequent precipitation throughout much of August aided grain and pod fill but limited fieldwork. Harvest got underway in September but was slowed due to wet conditions during the month. The week ending September 11 was Iowa's wettest of the year with the State averaging 2.32 inches of precipitation. Corn and soybean harvest remained behind average until early November despite drier and more mild conditions. Only a few areas of the State had not completed harvest by the end of the season.



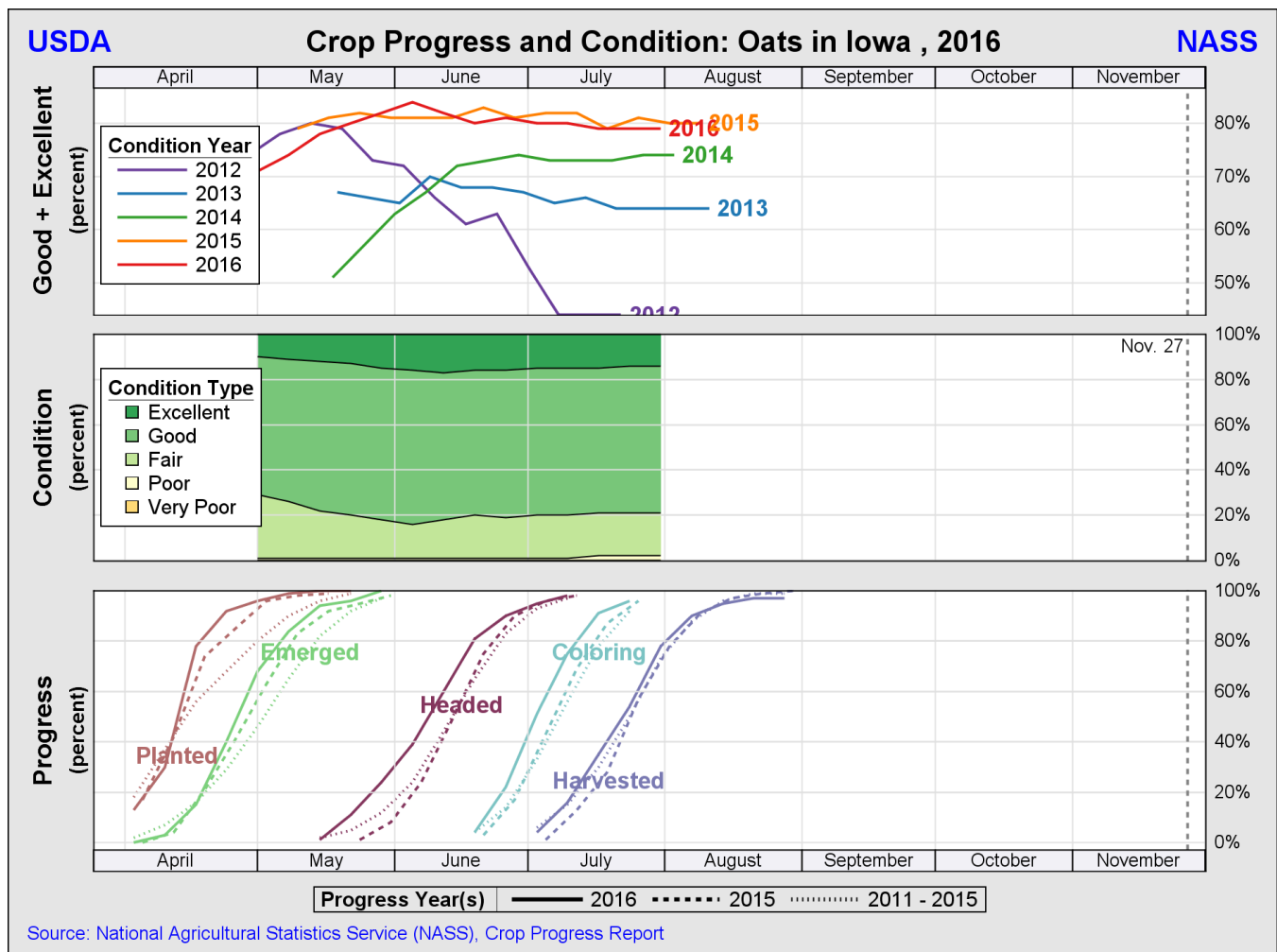
Corn planting began in earnest the second week of April, reaching 13 percent planted. Progress during April and May remained ahead of the five-year average. By May 1, 57 percent of the corn crop was planted statewide while more than three-quarters of the corn in north central and central Iowa had been planted. The planting of corn was complete by the end of May. Crop development was either equal to or ahead of the average pace throughout the season. Corn was almost fully emerged by June 12, over 1 week ahead of average. Corn silking was virtually complete by August 7, 10 days ahead of average. Ninety-seven percent of corn had reached dough stage by September 4, 1 week ahead of average. Ninety-eight percent of corn was at dent stage by Sept 25, 4 days ahead average. Corn reaching the mature stage started off slowly but then surpassed the five-year average pace for the rest of the season. Harvest also started off slowly and it remained behind the five-year average until November 13, when it reached 94 percent harvested. Corn harvest was virtually complete on November 27. From the middle of July until harvest, 81 percent or more of the corn crop was rated in good to excellent condition. Moisture of corn being harvested was reported at 20 percent as harvest began and fell gradually to 16 percent by the end of harvest.



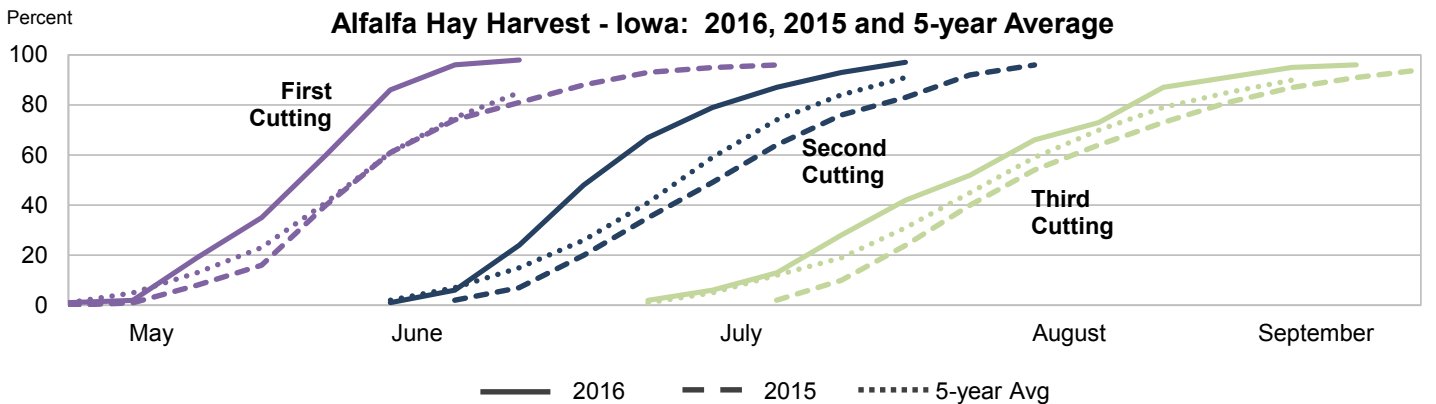
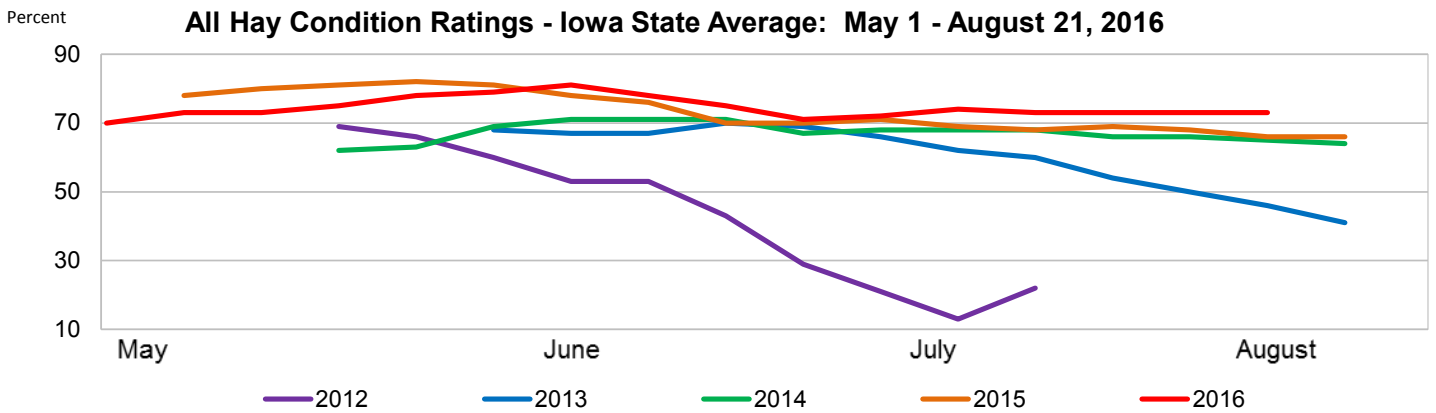
More than one quarter of the **soybean** crop was planted by May 8, five days ahead of the five-year average. By the end of May, over half the soybean crop had emerged, 3 days ahead of normal. Soybean emergence stayed ahead of last year's and the average pace until fully emerged at the end of June. Plants began blooming in late June and remained ahead of average and last year's pace until fully bloomed by mid-August. Pods set were ahead of average for the entire stage. Leaves turning color were also either equal to or ahead of average. Harvest began slowly in mid-September and remained behind the 5-year average pace until November 20 when harvest was virtually complete. Precipitation throughout September slowed down harvest in some parts of the State. However, during the week ending October 9, over one-fifth of the soybean crop was harvested, reaching 43 percent harvested. Conditions remained fairly consistent from June to harvest with 80 percent or more rated good to excellent most of the season.



Oat seeding began slightly behind average, but by May 1 was 2 weeks ahead of normal. The week ending April 17 was especially productive with almost half of the State's expected oat acreage planted during that week. Emergence started off at the same pace as the previous year but finished 4 days ahead in the third week of May. By May 29, 24 percent of the oat acreage was headed, 1 week ahead of average, remaining ahead of average for this stage of the crop. Three-quarters of the crop was turning color by July 10. By the end of July, 78 percent of the oat crop had been harvested for grain or seed, 2 days ahead of last year. On May 1, the condition rating of the crop was 71 percent good to excellent. This rating improved to 80 percent good to excellent by May 22 and remained near this level till the end of the season. Ninety-five percent of the oat crop had been harvested by August 14, equal to last year.



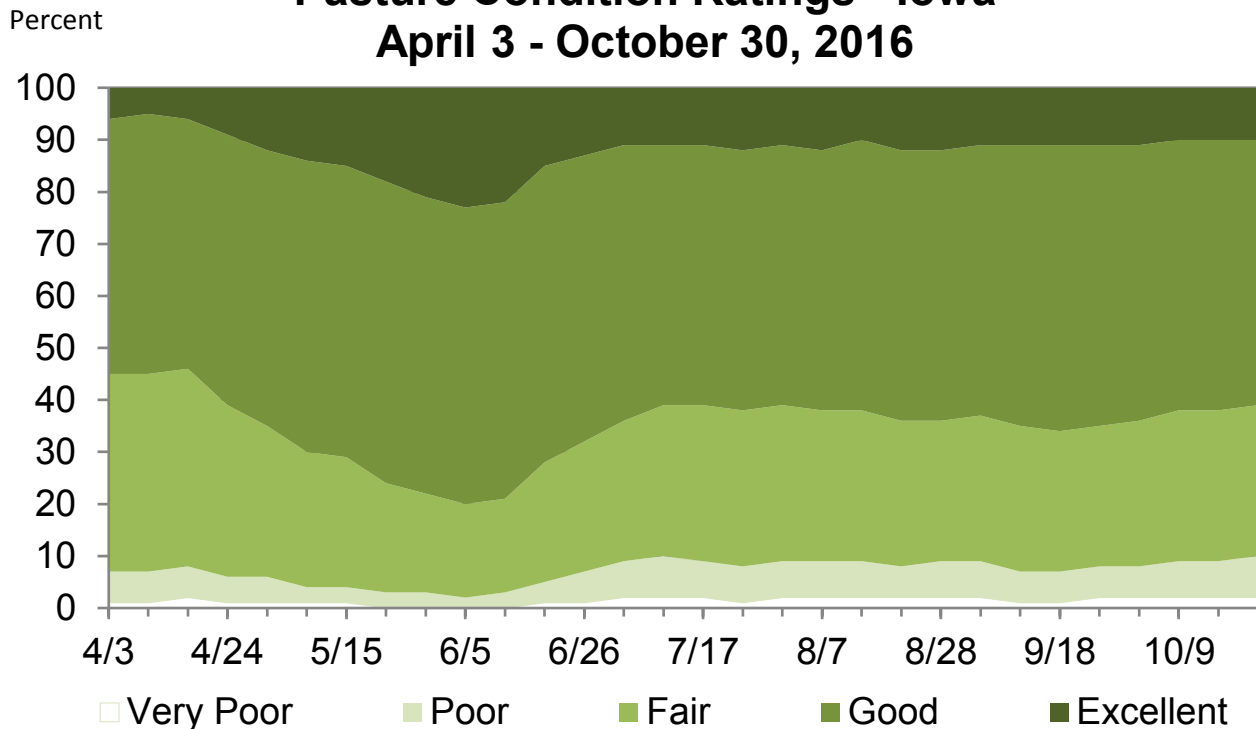
The first cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 19 percent complete by May 22, 10 days ahead of last year's pace. More than three-quarters of the state's hay was rated in good to excellent condition throughout the first cutting. Progress stayed ahead of both last year and average until the first cutting was virtually complete on June 19, at which time the second cutting of alfalfa hay had reached 6 percent complete. Ninety-seven percent of the second cutting was complete by August 7, more than two weeks ahead of last year. The third cutting stayed ahead of both last year and the average pace and was almost complete by October 2, despite being slowed down by precipitation during the middle of September. Producers in some parts of the State were able to complete a fourth cutting of alfalfa hay.



Pastures were starting to green by April 3 but hadn't seen much growth yet; 55 percent of pastures were rated in good to excellent condition. Adequate to surplus soil moisture levels at the beginning of the season aided pasture growth. By May 22 over three-quarters of the state's pastures were in good to excellent condition. The highest condition ratings came the week ending June 5 when 80 percent of pastures were in good to excellent condition, with close to one-quarter in excellent condition. Conditions declined until July and then held fairly steady with 60 to 65 percent good to excellent the rest of the season.



Pasture Condition Ratings - Iowa April 3 - October 30, 2016



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