

IOWA MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY

June 2002

General Summary. June temperatures averaged 72.5° or 2.3° above normal while precipitation totaled 3.60 inches or 0.82 inch below normal. This ranks as the 35th driest and 17th warmest June among 130 years of state records. This was Iowa's warmest June in 11 years and driest since 1992.

Temperatures. June began hot with above normal temperatures for the first three days of the month including 96° readings at Ankeny, Logan and Johnston on the 1st. Temperatures fluctuated within a few degrees of normal from the 4th through the 17th. The month's lowest temperatures were 43° readings reported from Mason City on the 5th, Grinnell on the 6th and Elkader and Sheldon on the 16th. Above normal temperatures returned on the 18th and persisted through the remainder of the month. Sioux Center and Hawarden reported the month's highest temperature with 99° readings on the 29th.

Cooling Degree Days. Home air conditioning requirements, as estimated by heating degree day totals, averaged 30% greater than normal and 46% greater than last June.

Precipitation. The first two weeks of June brought abundant rainfall to most of Iowa. In fact, excessive rainfall deluged east central Iowa on the 3rd-4th resulting in severe flooding in the area roughly bounded by Cedar Rapids, Dubuque and Davenport. However, a much drier weather pattern took hold of the state beginning on the 13th. Some areas of southwest Iowa recorded no precipitation after the 13th while the state average precipitation was only 0.71 inch over those last 17 days of the month. The turn toward drier conditions, along with hotter late-month weather, was already beginning to be reflected by deteriorating crop conditions by the end of the month. Monthly precipitation totals varied from only 0.82 inch at Blockton (Taylor Co.) to 10.66 inches at Cascade (Dubuque Co.). At Blockton this was their second driest June on record behind a 0.09 total in 1988 and at Cascade was their second wettest June behind 12.60 in 1969.

Severe Weather. May and June are typically the most active months of the year for severe weather in Iowa. However, this year both months have been unusually quiet. June's largest severe weather event came on the 12th-13th and resulted in reports of large hail or high winds from 13 southern Iowa counties