

## IOWA MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY – JULY 2007

General Summary. Iowa temperatures averaged 73.9° or 0.1° above normal while precipitation averaged 3.50 inches or 0.75 inches less than normal. This ranks as the 65<sup>th</sup> coolest and 66<sup>th</sup> wettest July among 135 years of state records. The month was slightly wetter and cooler than the previous two Julys.

Temperatures. Temperatures averaged very near seasonal normals with no prolonged periods of either above or below normal temperatures. There was an east to west gradient in temperatures with western Iowa averaging 1 to 2 degrees warmer than normal and eastern Iowa 1 to 2 degrees cooler than usual. There were only three days when temperatures averaged more than 5 degrees above normal, the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The month's highest temperature was a 99° readings recorded at Hawarden on the 17<sup>th</sup>. On the other extreme temperatures averaged 5 or more degrees below normal on the 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. The month's lowest temperature was a 44° degree reading on the 13<sup>th</sup> at Sheldon.

Cooling Degree Days. Home air conditioning requirements, as estimated by cooling degree day totals, averaged the same as normal but 20% less than last July. Thus far this season cooling degree day totals are running 6% more than normal and 9% less than one year ago.

Precipitation. Rainfall was extremely variable across Iowa during July. Generally precipitation was excessive in parts of eastern Iowa and non-existent in some areas of northwest Iowa. Torrential rains fell in portions of eastern Iowa on the 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. On the night of the 3<sup>rd</sup> four to five inches of rain fell across Jackson, Clinton and Scott counties. The second event brought five to ten inches of rain to southeast Allamakee and northeastern Clayton counties. De Witt reported the most rain during the month with over 11.98 inches. Meanwhile, record low precipitation totals were reported from Sioux County of northwest Iowa. These totals include:

City	July 2007 Total	Old July Record	Length of Record
Hawarden	0.00	0.12 inches in 1930	80 years
Le Mars	Trace	0.12 inches in 1879	120 years
Sioux Center	Trace	0.25 inches in 1946	104 years
Alton	0.23 inches	0.25 inches in 2006	103 years

At Hawarden, Le Mars, Rock Valley and Sioux Center the last measurable rainfall (0.01 inch or more) was on June 22. Generally, much of the western two-thirds of Iowa has been unusually dry since late May. However, year-to-date precipitation totals remain at or above normal for all but the northwest one-quarter of the state and small portions of south central and southeastern Iowa.

Severe Weather. Once again Iowa experienced a fairly quiet month in regards to severe weather. The only sizable severe weather outbreak came on the evening and night of the 18<sup>th</sup> when high winds were reported from 28 counties, roughly along a Sioux City to Davenport line.

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