

IOWA MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 2007

General Summary. November temperatures averaged 37.1° or 1.5° above normal while precipitation totaled 0.19 inches or 1.95 inches less than normal. This ranks as the 62nd warmest November among 135 years of state records. This also ties for 8th driest month among all calendar months. Iowa's only drier months have been October 1952 (0.02 inches), November 1976 (0.10), January 1981 (0.12), November 1904 (0.15), January 1928 (0.17), February 1970 (0.18), and March 1910 (0.18).

Temperatures. Generally November brought relatively few temperature extremes as only two days (11th and 19th) averaged more than ten degrees away from normal. The most anomalous period came at mid month when above normal temperatures were recorded on all but one day from the 10th through the 20th. The month's highest temperatures came on the 11th when Sioux City reached 74° and on the 19th when Glenwood and Shenandoah warmed to 76°. On the other extreme, Sibley reported the season's first subzero temperature with a reading of -2° on the 30th.

Heating Degree Day Totals. Home heating requirements, as estimated by heating degree day totals, averaged 8% greater than last November but 6% less than normal. Thus far this heating season degree day totals are running 16% less than one year ago and 17% less than normal.

Precipitation. The very dry weather pattern that began on October 20 continued through all of November (but was to end with a major winter storm on December 1). An average of only 0.22 inches of precipitation fell across Iowa during the October 20 to November 30 period, compared to a normal value of 3.05 inches. This extended dry period allowed fall harvest activities to progress in a timely manner after being halted by unusually wet weather in early October. The season's first snow flurries came to parts of northern Iowa on the 5th. However, the only snow event of consequence came on the 21st when light to moderate snow fell across the southeast one-half of the state. Greatest snow totals were 5.3 inches at Indianola and 4.8 inches at Des Moines. The previous day, the 20th, brought the bulk of the month's rainfall with light rain falling across about the eastern two-thirds of the state. Monthly precipitation amounts were below normal statewide. Burlington Airport reported the most precipitation with 1.49 inches. Le Mars and Akron reported no precipitation during the month and another 11 west central and northwest Iowa locations recorded only a trace. Streaks of 42 consecutive days without measurable precipitation came to an end on December 1 at Alton, Cherokee, Fort Dodge, Ida Grove, Le Mars, Rock Valley, Sioux Center and Sioux Rapids. Record low November precipitation totals were tied or set at the following locations:

Station	Nov. 2007	Old Nov. Record	Period of Record
Alton	Trace	Trace in 1976	100 years
Hawarden	0.02 inches	0.02 in 1939	82 years
Le Mars	0.00	0.00 in 1883 and 1884	114 years
Sheldon	0.02	0.05 in 1939	96 years

Storm Lake Trace

Trace in 1976

117 years

Fall Summary. Temperatures over the three fall months averaged 52.6° or 2.8° above normal while precipitation totaled 8.17 inches or 0.10 inches above normal. This ranks as the 31st warmest and 51st wettest fall season among 135 years of state records.

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