



USDA National Agricultural Statistical Service, Iowa Field Office • 210 Walnut, Room 833 • Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2195  
Phone 515-284-4340 • 1-800-772-0825 • Fax 515-284-4342 • [nass-ia@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ia@nass.usda.gov)  
In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Issued May 21, 2012 Vol 12 - 12

For the week ending May 20, 2012

Iowa farmers took advantage of another warm and dry week and planted crops at a rapid pace. As corn planting neared completion, farmers were able to focus more on soybean planting. Other activities included spraying crops and cutting hay.

There were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared with 5.1 days the previous week. With areas in Northwest Iowa receiving at least an inch of rain, it was the only district with less than six days suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture levels rated 7 percent very short, 37 percent short, 55 percent adequate, and 1 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture rated 6 percent very short, 24 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

Corn planting now stands at 98 percent complete. A few farmers have reported having to replant some corn fields damaged by late April showers. Eighty-one percent of the corn crop has emerged, 1 week ahead of normal. Corn condition is rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 16 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. Soybean planting advanced 46 percentage points statewide, and now stands 85 percent complete, ahead of last year's 69 percent and the five-year average of 60 percent. Farmers in North Central Iowa planted 55 percent of their soybeans during the week, the largest increase in the state. Twenty-six percent of the expected soybean acreage has emerged, ahead of last year's 16 percent and the five-year average of 13 percent. Twenty percent of the oat crop has headed, almost 3 weeks ahead of normal. Oat condition decreased slightly to 0 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 64 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

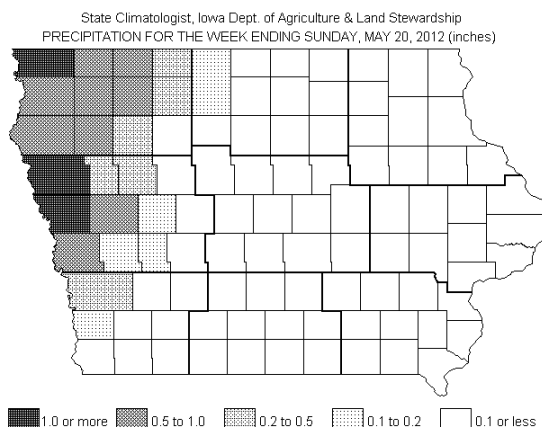
Sixty-eight percent of Iowa's pasture and range land is now rated good to excellent, a 5 percentage point decrease from the previous week. Pasture and range condition rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 20 percent excellent.

### Crop Conditions as of May 20, 2012

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Corn .....	1	2	16	60	21
Oats .....	0	2	19	64	15
Pasture & Range .....	1	5	26	48	20

### IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

Iowa experienced a mostly dry and warm week. Rain was limited to only three events. The first two events brought scattered light rain to small portions of far eastern Iowa on Tuesday evening and far western Iowa on Saturday morning. The last event on Saturday night brought over an inch of rain to a few areas along the western border of the state with light rain extending into about the west one-third of Iowa. No rain was reported over most of the eastern two-thirds of Iowa this week while Correctionville in Woodbury County reported the most rain with 2.03 inches. The statewide average precipitation was 0.15 inch while normal for the week is 1.05 inches. Clear skies and dry air brought cool nights and warm days from Monday (14<sup>th</sup>) through Thursday (17<sup>th</sup>). Temperatures fell as low as 38 degrees at Belle Plaine, Coggon and Grinnell on Monday morning and 36 degrees at Sheldon on Wednesday morning while Ames recorded a high of 92 degrees on Tuesday afternoon. Increasing clouds and humidity resulted in much higher overnight temperatures on Friday and Saturday with daytime highs mostly in the 80s along with some 90s. Sioux City reached 93 degrees on Friday and Spencer soared to 95 on Saturday. A cold front brought much lower temperatures and humidity on Sunday but not before Davenport and Lowden reached 90 degrees. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 6.5 degrees above normal. The recent dry weather has been fabulous for allowing rapid planting but rain is greatly needed over much of central and eastern Iowa where no precipitation of consequence has occurred in two weeks. The recent dryness has been exacerbated by frequent strong winds, low humidity and above normal temperatures statewide.



### Field Work and Crop Progress as of May 20, 2012

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 planted .....	99	98	97	99	98	98	99	97	98	98	90	96	92
Corn emerged .....	89	80	59	89	84	80	86	69	79	81	55	62	59
Soybeans planted .....	92	82	81	86	83	80	88	80	82	85	39	69	60
Soybeans emerged .....	28	16	14	30	30	23	30	30	29	26	5	16	13
Oats headed .....	16	5	16	8	33	11	36	21	35	20	7	0	0

### Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of May 20, 2012

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 .....	5.9	6.7	6.8	6.5	6.9	6.9	6.6	7.0	7.0	6.6	5.1	4.1
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	9	4	2	8	3	11	9	14	6	7	0	0
Short .....	25	23	42	38	50	46	27	50	30	37	9	1
Adequate .....	65	72	55	52	43	43	62	36	63	55	83	79
Surplus .....	1	1	1	2	4	0	2	0	1	1	8	20
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	19	7	2	9	2	3	5	5	3	6	4	0
Short .....	32	27	21	28	19	25	11	20	24	24	16	1
Adequate .....	49	65	74	60	71	68	79	73	71	67	71	82
Surplus .....	0	1	3	3	8	4	5	2	2	3	9	17

**Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office. For the week ending: 7:00 am Sunday, May 20, 2012, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.**

Station	Current Week						Since April 1			
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation		GDD Base 50F	
	High	Low	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total	DFN	Total	DFN
North West District										
Estherville .....	92	42	69	11	0.48	-0.27	6.20	1.32	417	222
Sioux Center .....	94	43	70	10	0.88	0.10	5.61	1.07	533	210
Spencer .....	95	39	69	10	1.41	0.57	6.95	1.95	463	233
Spirit Lake .....	92	43	69	11	0.68	-0.03	6.64	2.27	414	186
North Central District										
Britt .....	90	45	67	7	0.18	-0.62	6.50	1.22	341	137
Dakota City .....	90	45	69	7	0.03	-0.81	7.34	1.98	412	146
Mason City .....	90	43	67	9	0.00	-0.93	5.87	0.33	375	154
Osage .....	87	46	67	7	0.00	-0.90	8.20	2.43	313	108
North East District										
Decorah .....	88	39	67	8	0.00	-0.84	7.06	1.22	374	131
Dubuque .....	87	45	66	7	0.00	-0.98	2.93	-3.54	333	101
Elkader .....	87	35	64	5	0.00	-0.91	4.29	-1.45	264	33
Fayette .....	89	44	66	7	0.00	-0.95	5.55	-0.43	319	138
Waterloo .....	90	43	70	10	0.00	-0.91	4.87	-1.03	425	173
West Central District										
Carroll .....	90	43	68	8	0.11	-0.87	5.77	-0.25	450	198
Castana .....	90	45	68	7	1.61	0.64	6.36	1.01	473	132
Guthrie Center .....	90	43	67	6	0.00	-0.97	8.16	2.25	478	203
Harlan .....	89	47	68	6	0.14	-0.85	5.90	0.06	488	237
Jefferson .....	91	44	68	8	0.03	-0.95	5.17	-0.85	461	199
Logan .....	90	43	68	6	0.61	-0.44	5.68	-0.11	504	199
Rockwell City .....	89	49	68	7	0.04	-0.89	7.48	2.11	433	190
Sac City .....	91	46	68	8	0.20	-0.77	5.27	-0.20	417	199
Sioux City .....	94	41	70	8	1.06	0.22	6.88	2.24	567	267
Central District										
Boone .....	87	43	67	7	0.04	-0.97	5.88	-0.21	422	152
Des Moines .....	91	52	71	9	0.00	-0.83	7.88	2.25	602	272
Grundy Center .....	89	46	69	10	0.00	-0.96	4.93	-0.92	399	184
Marshalltown .....	91	47	70	10	0.00	-0.91	4.19	-1.51	473	223
Newton .....	87	45	68	6	0.00	-0.98	4.80	-1.13	446	133
Perry .....	89	42	67	7	0.13	-0.84	6.92	1.14	454	197
Toledo .....	88	43	66	7	0.00	-1.01	4.89	-1.17	367	142
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids .....	88	43	68	8	0.00	-0.84	4.47	-1.02	415	128
Davenport .....	90	47	69	7	0.00	-0.84	8.21	2.66	447	114
Iowa City .....	89	44	68	5	0.00	-0.91	7.01	0.71	460	76
Lowden .....	91	41	67	7	0.01	-0.93	5.67	-0.73	372	122
Maquoketa .....	89	42	65	6	0.00	-0.85	3.87	-1.68	311	80
Muscatine .....	88	47	68	6	0.27	-0.64	6.77	0.78	423	59
South West District										
Atlantic .....	88	42	67	6	0.09	-0.81	6.12	0.65	484	190
Clarinda .....	90	42	68	6	0.00	-1.05	6.14	-0.21	521	233
Glenwood .....	89	46	67	5	0.11	-1.00	5.34	-0.63	512	169
Red Oak .....	89	45	68	5	0.02	-1.00	8.95	2.67	549	233
Sidney .....	88	52	70	6	0.02	-0.96	5.22	-0.67	564	213
South Central District										
Allerton .....	84	49	66	4	0.00	-0.91	6.33	0.41	451	154
Beaconsfield .....	85	49	66	5	0.00	-0.91	5.52	-0.29	461	192
Chariton .....	86	46	67	6	0.00	-0.91	7.35	1.28	459	210
Indianola .....	89	43	68	7	0.00	-0.91	5.44	-0.77	477	216
Leon .....	84	40	64	3	0.00	-1.02	6.47	0.08	450	184
South East District										
Bloomfield .....	86	45	66	4	0.00	-0.98	5.93	-0.30	475	162
Burlington .....	88	46	68	6	0.00	-0.84	6.66	0.76	535	151
Ottumwa .....	86	45	68	5	0.00	-0.91	6.01	0.15	496	129
Washington .....	86	44	67	3	0.03	-0.88	9.06	3.30	448	107

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Copyright 2012: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.