



# Iowa Crops & Weather

USDA – National Agricultural Statistical Service – Iowa Field Office  
 In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship  
 210 Walnut, Room 833 • Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2195  
 515-284-4340 • 1-800-772-0825 • FAX 515-284-4342 • [nass-ia@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-ia@nass.usda.gov)  
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For the week ending April 18, 2010

## FARMERS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IDEAL CONDITIONS

**Agricultural Summary:** Warm, breezy conditions in central and southern Iowa dried and firmed up fields after a few rain showers early in the week. However, large rainfall amounts and hail in northern Iowa limited field work in that area the past week. Improving conditions in most areas allowed farmers to apply fertilizer and nitrogen along with preparing fields for planting corn and soybeans. With soil temperatures rising into the fifties, oat planting continued, corn planting progressed rapidly, and several areas started planting soybeans. Due to drier conditions this week, some areas could actually use rain to help the newly planted crops emerge. Hay fields look good and pasture conditions continue to improve as they green up.

There were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared with 3.6 days last week. Topsoil moisture rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 84 percent adequate, and 9 percent surplus across the state. Subsoil moisture rated 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 82 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus.

**Field Crops Report:** Corn acreage planted was 19 percent complete, 14 percentage points ahead of both last year and the five-year average, and the fastest pace since 2004. Central Iowa leads the state with 31 percent of the corn crop in the ground, followed closely by Southeast Iowa at 30 percent. Oat acreage planted was 82 percent complete, well ahead of last year's 65 percent and the five-year average of 52 percent. Oat acreage emerged was 29 percent, ahead of last year's 3 percent and the five-year average of 11 percent.

**Livestock, Pasture and Range Report:** Pasture and range condition rated 0 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 56 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. The improving pasture conditions are giving farmers an opportunity to transfer livestock from dry lots into permanent

pasture ground. The excellent weather has been good for livestock and limited their stress. Newborn calves have also benefited from the summer-like spring weather.

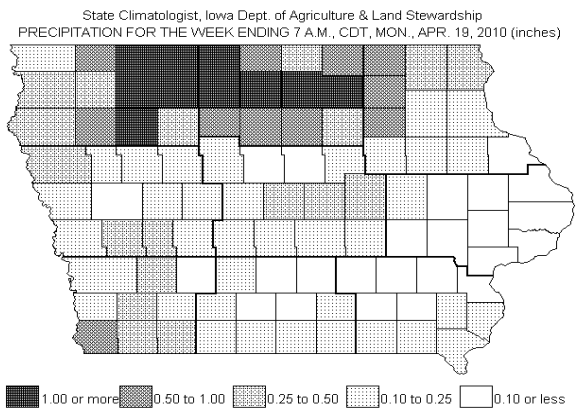
## IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

Unseasonably warm weather dominated Iowa from Monday (12<sup>th</sup>) through Thursday (15<sup>th</sup>) of the reporting week when high temperatures reached into the low 80's over much of southern and central Iowa. Temperatures were more seasonal for the weekend with highs mostly in the 60's on Friday (16<sup>th</sup>), Saturday (17<sup>th</sup>) and Sunday (18<sup>th</sup>). Temperature extremes for the week ranged from an afternoon high of 86 degrees at Sioux City on Monday (12<sup>th</sup>) to morning lows of 27 degrees at Little Sioux on Saturday (17<sup>th</sup>) and Elkader on Sunday (18<sup>th</sup>). Scattered freezes were reported over about the northwest two-thirds of Iowa on both Saturday and Sunday mornings. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 10.3 degrees above normal. Thunderstorms rumbled across the northern one-third of the state on Monday with locally heavy rain over areas of northwest Iowa along with reports of large hail from six counties. Tuesday was dry while showers and thunderstorms were scattered over the northwest one-half of Iowa on Wednesday. Showers, with a few isolated thunderstorms, were scattered statewide on Thursday. Finally, some light rain fell over far southern Iowa on Friday morning while the weekend was dry. Weekly rain totals varied from none along a narrow strip near Interstate 80 from Grinnell to the Quad Cities while Linn Grove in Buena Vista County reported 3.45 inches. The statewide average precipitation was 0.37 inches or about one-half of the weekly normal of 0.79 inches. Finally, soil temperatures as of Sunday (18<sup>th</sup>) were averaging in the mid 50's statewide.

Statewide Crop Conditions as of April 18, 2010

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	0	4	30	56	10

## PRELIMINARY IOWA PRECIPITATION



Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 18, 2010

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn planted	11	14	8	18	31	19	24	19	30	19	1	5	5	
Oats planted	89	88	82	94	90	95	67	66	77	82	55	65	52	
Oats emerged	33	42	35	18	35	57	7	6	12	29	3	3	11	

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 18, 2010

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
Days suitable	4.4	3.6	5.0	5.9	5.9	6.5	5.2	6.1	6.2	5.3	3.6	4.7	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	
Short	3	2	3	14	5	9	5	8	6	6	3	7	
Adequate	88	88	85	79	88	88	78	78	84	84	76	78	
Surplus	9	10	12	5	6	2	17	14	10	9	21	15	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Short	1	1	5	4	4	2	3	3	2	3	1	3	
Adequate	88	86	82	85	76	92	68	79	79	82	73	78	
Surplus	11	13	13	11	20	6	29	18	19	15	26	19	

**Weather Summary**  
**For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office**  
**For the week ending: Sunday, April 18, 2010, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.**

STATION	CURRENT WEEK						SINCE APRIL 1		CURRENT WEEK	
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
North West District										
Estherville	77	32	57	13	1.39	0.73	1.50	-0.11	54	54
Sioux Center	82	31	59	11	0.44	-0.12	0.77	-0.65	66	42
Spencer	78	30	56	11	2.54	1.91	2.60	1.07	54	48
Spirit Lake	77	31	56	12	2.00	1.44	2.43	1.02	45	39
North Central District										
Britt	76	35	56	9	1.58	0.88	1.91	0.21	43	43
Humboldt	79	33	56	8	1.10	0.40	2.00	0.27	51	36
Mason City	80	29	56	11	1.44	0.74	1.90	0.23	54	48
Osage	79	35	55	9	1.11	0.34	1.94	0.07	40	36
North East District										
Decorah	81	29	56	9	0.37	-0.46	1.45	-0.52	49	36
Dubuque	80	34	57	11	0.00	-0.86	3.41	1.25	59	46
Elkader	81	27	54	7	0.10	-0.66	4.89	3.07	38	24
Fayette	80	32	56	10	0.07	-0.70	1.76	-0.09	47	45
Waterloo	81	30	58	10	0.05	-0.72	3.72	1.84	61	47
West Central District										
Carroll	80	31	57	10	0.09	-0.68	0.62	-1.25	57	44
Castana	82	35	59	9	0.12	-0.51	0.31	-1.23	65	39
Guthrie Center	79	30	59	11	0.41	-0.36	2.57	0.69	70	50
Harlan	82	33	60	10	0.18	-0.53	0.76	-0.97	70	54
Jefferson	81	31	58	10	0.25	-0.52	0.89	-0.98	60	43
Logan	82	29	59	9	0.08	-0.58	0.38	-1.22	72	49
Rockwell City	80	34	57	8	0.22	-0.42	1.22	-0.34	53	43
Sac City	81	32	56	9	0.13	-0.51	0.59	-1.04	44	38
Sioux City	86	29	61	11	0.32	-0.21	0.60	-0.70	82	60
Central District										
Boone	79	34	58	10	0.18	-0.59	1.36	-0.53	62	44
Des Moines	83	41	63	13	0.03	-0.76	1.51	-0.45	94	70
Grundy Center	81	33	58	12	0.09	-0.66	2.26	0.45	58	52
Marshalltown	81	30	59	11	0.29	-0.47	2.18	0.32	68	54
Newton	81	34	60	11	0.16	-0.61	2.49	0.65	71	50
Perry	80	32	58	11	0.22	-0.51	1.85	0.08	63	47
Toledo	80	33	58	11	0.19	-0.57	2.43	0.60	62	52
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	82	32	59	11	0.09	-0.68	1.59	-0.28	69	51
Davenport	84	32	61	12	0.00	-0.77	1.81	-0.11	80	56
Iowa City	83	34	61	10	0.00	-0.87	1.29	-0.84	79	49
Lowden	83	28	58	11	0.01	-0.90	2.20	0.01	68	53
Maquoketa	83	31	59	11	0.00	-0.77	2.27	0.38	64	52
Muscatine	83	34	62	11	0.09	-0.75	1.95	-0.11	84	57
South West District										
Atlantic	80	29	59	11	0.09	-0.61	2.47	0.75	73	51
Clarinda	81	31	59	10	0.28	-0.50	0.70	-1.20	72	50
Glenwood	81	34	61	10	0.02	-0.64	0.82	-0.77	79	53
Red Oak	81	33	61	10	0.28	-0.54	0.98	-1.00	82	59
Sidney	80	39	61	10	0.61	-0.11	1.02	-0.76	81	55
South Central District										
Allerton	81	35	61	12	0.14	-0.63	1.60	-0.30	79	56
Beaconsfield	79	36	59	11	0.17	-0.60	1.43	-0.46	70	51
Chariton	79	28	58	10	0.08	-0.76	0.82	-1.23	69	52
Indianola	83	31	60	10	0.06	-0.78	0.99	-1.04	77	59
Leon	82	32	60	11	0.15	-0.68	1.08	-0.91	76	57
South East District										
Bloomfield	79	36	60	8	0.20	-0.62	1.25	-0.77	70	47
Burlington	82	38	63	12	0.23	-0.61	1.95	-0.10	94	63
Ottumwa	82	32	61	10	0.09	-0.68	0.57	-1.31	80	52
Washington	83	32	60	9	0.04	-0.71	1.51	-0.34	74	48

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 2010: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.