



Iowa Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 776-3400 · (800) 772-0825
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov/ia

Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

April 17, 2023 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Strong winds and warmer than normal temperatures led to drier soil conditions which allowed **5.2 days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending April 16, 2023, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. There were a few isolated areas in the southern part of Iowa that saw more precipitation than average for this time of year. Fertilizer applications continued and oat seeding accelerated. Farmers began planting corn and soybeans although many operators were waiting for precipitation to improve soil moisture supplies.

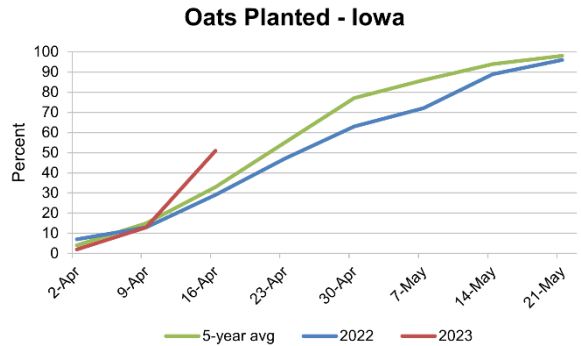
Topsoil moisture condition rated 7 percent very short, 23 percent short, 66 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 9 percent very short, 28 percent short, 60 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus.

Seven percent of Iowa’s expected **corn** crop has been planted, almost 2 weeks ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of the 5-year average. Over one-third of the State’s expected oat crop was planted during the week ending April 16 to reach 51 percent, 10 days ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of normal. Four percent of the oat crop has emerged.

Pastures continue to break dormancy and become green, but little new growth thus far. Calving continues. Overall, livestock conditions continue to be good.

Crop Condition as of April 16, 2023

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range	3	14	49	32	2



Crop Progress as of April 16, 2023

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn planted	7	4	2	9	6	4	8	17	16	7	0	0	1
Oats planted	38	54	50	56	53	53	49	60	56	51	13	27	33

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of April 16, 2023

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable	4.6	4.7	5.5	5.3	5.9	5.0	5.2	5.5	5.4	5.2	3.5	2.8
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	4	3	1	18	6	6	5	10	9	7	3	7
Short	33	15	13	31	39	24	9	10	17	23	19	22
Adequate	60	80	77	51	50	67	82	72	71	66	73	66
Surplus	3	2	9	0	5	3	4	8	3	4	5	5
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	12	3	1	22	6	6	11	10	6	9	7	11
Short	46	17	8	50	35	21	15	9	25	28	27	33
Adequate	42	78	82	28	54	72	70	76	67	60	62	54
Surplus	0	2	9	0	5	1	4	5	2	3	4	2

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

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IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY
Provided by Justin Glisan, Ph.D., State Climatologist
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Reports from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on April 10, 2023, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on April 16, 2023.

Iowa experienced summerlike conditions over several days of the reporting period as positive temperature departures from eight to 16 degrees were observed; the statewide average temperature was 58.6 degrees, 11.1 degrees above normal. Coupled with these anomalously warm temperatures was a very dry airmass until a late-week pattern shift brought widespread rainfall and some snow statewide. Southwestern Iowa measured above-normal totals with deficits of over 0.50 inches at many eastern stations.

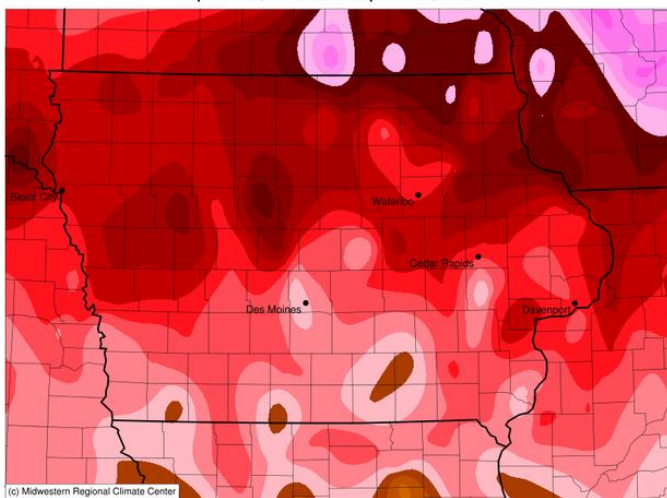
Gusty southerly winds continued through Sunday (9th) afternoon under clear skies with daytime temperatures in the upper 60s and low 70s. A disturbance pushed across western Iowa during the evening hours and persisted through Monday (10th) morning. Several southwestern and south-central stations measured at least 0.20 inches with Hastings (Mills County) reporting 0.47 inches. Temperatures rose into the low to mid-70s as clouds cleared off through the day under a light and variable wind. Starry skies remained overnight as morning lows reported on Tuesday (11th) held in the 40s with patchy fog in southwestern Iowa. A strong southerly wind built in over the daylight hours under sunny skies with high temperatures in the upper 70s and low 80s as a dry airmass overtook the Upper Midwest. Morning lows on Wednesday (12th) were unseasonably warm with a statewide average low of 51 degrees, 16 degrees above normal. Afternoon conditions were exceedingly dry with dewpoint temperatures in the upper 40s in the presence of strong southwesterly winds and air temperatures in the low 80s south to low 90s north; the statewide average high was 83 degrees, 24 degrees above normal. Winds died down overnight as temperatures dropped into the 50s. Southerly winds began to increase through Thursday (13th) with daytime temperatures generally 10 to 12 degrees cooler than the prior day.

Isolated showers popped up in northwestern Iowa a few hours after sunrise on Friday (14th). Another line of showers and a few thunderstorms developed in western Iowa after noon with temperatures in the upper 70s and low 80s across much of Iowa. Behind the cold front, conditions cooled into the upper 60s where clouds and rain were present. In advance of a low pressure system, strong to severe storms formed after sunset over southwestern Iowa, expanding in coverage while losing strength as the cluster pushed into central Iowa. There were several reports of severe straight-line wind events causing structural damage with a 68 mph wind gust clocked near Essex (Page County). The low slowly moved through Iowa on Saturday (15th) as showers and thunderstorms brought widespread rainfall. Iowa's eastern quarter remained mostly clear with highs reaching into the mid 70s while upper 30s to mid 40s were observed in western Iowa. Light snow filtered on the backside of the low pressure as rainfall moved into eastern Iowa overnight into Sunday (16th). All Iowa stations reported measurable precipitation with over 50 measuring at least 0.50 inch; the highest totals were observed in southwest Iowa where eight stations recorded from 1.00 inch to 1.74 inches. Snow totals were isolated with 0.1 inches in Davenport (Scott County) to 3.5 inches in Swea City (Kossuth County).

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.01 inches at multiple stations to 2.21 inches in Hastings. The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.44 inches while the normal is 0.81 inches. Airports in Sioux City (Woodbury County) and Spencer (Clay County) reported the week's high temperature of 92 degrees on the 14th, on average 33 degrees above normal. Beaconsfield (Ringgold County) reported the week's low temperature of 27 degrees on the 10th, eight degrees below normal. Four-inch soil temperatures were in the low to mid 40s east to upper 40s and low 50s west as of Sunday.

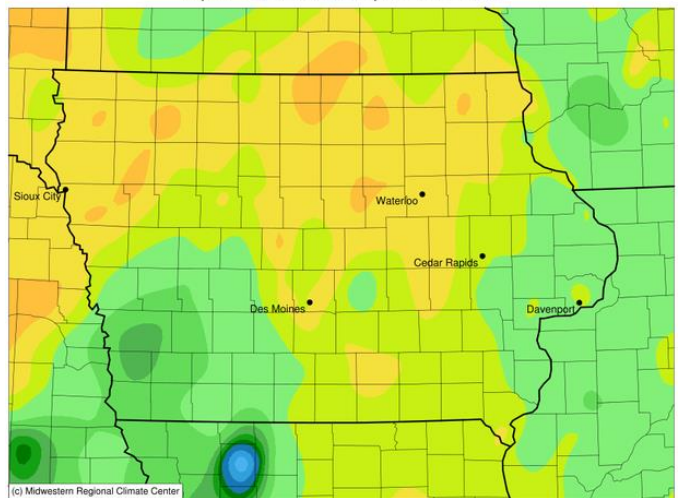
Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

April 10, 2023 to April 16, 2023



Accumulated Precipitation (in)

April 10, 2023 to April 16, 2023



Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwestern Regional Climate Center
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Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwestern Regional Climate Center
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