



Cooler than normal temperatures and relatively dry weather helped Iowa farmers to 4.8 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending May 21, 2023, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Farmers were still planting corn, soybeans, and oats this week, although planting activities were nearing completion.

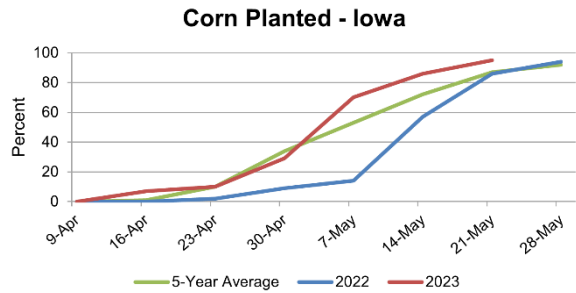
Topsoil moisture condition rated 5 percent very short, 20 percent short, 71 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 7 percent very short, 25 percent short, 65 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus.

Ninety-five percent of Iowa’s expected **corn** crop has been planted, 9 days ahead of last year and 12 days ahead of the 5-year average. Sixty-five percent of the corn crop has emerged, 6 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the average. Eighty-four percent of Iowa’s expected **soybean** crop has been planted, just over a week ahead of last year and nearly 2 weeks ahead of normal. Forty-three percent of soybeans have emerged, 8 days ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of average. Ninety-four percent of the expected **oat** crop has emerged, 8 days ahead of normal. Eleven percent of the oat crop has headed, 9 days ahead of last year and 10 days ahead of the average. Oat condition improved to 80 percent good to excellent.

Eight percent of the State’s first cutting of **alfalfa hay** has been completed. **Hay condition** declined to 66 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** rated 58 percent good to excellent. Reports of livestock turned out to pasture were received again this week, overall livestock conditions are good.

Crop Condition as of May 21, 2023

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Hay, all	1	11	22	53	13
Oats	0	2	18	68	12
Pasture and range ..	1	14	27	47	11



Crop Progress as of May 21, 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	97	96	96	92	92	97	92	95	95	95	86	82	87
Corn emerged	71	67	61	54	62	78	64	58	78	65	35	41	53
Hay, alfalfa, 1st cutting	2	3	8	8	13	9	8	6	13	8	1	4	3
Oats emerged	96	98	96	94	94	96	82	86	92	94	83	79	86
Oats headed	4	10	6	10	16	25	6	12	16	11	0	3	2
Soybeans planted	82	83	91	78	84	92	79	80	92	84	69	64	66
Soybeans emerged	35	38	39	37	42	59	40	43	66	43	19	16	25

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 21, 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	4.0	2.8	5.5	5.6	5.1	6.1	4.4	4.4	5.2	4.8	3.6	5.4
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	5	1	1	6	4	5	16	2	12	5	3	3
Short	27	3	12	29	16	28	14	17	32	20	14	17
Adequate	63	93	82	63	74	66	67	76	53	71	76	76
Surplus	5	3	5	2	6	1	3	5	3	4	7	4
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	8	1	1	16	7	7	6	2	9	7	6	5
Short	40	10	8	34	21	28	31	8	42	25	23	22
Adequate	50	85	85	48	67	64	60	85	48	65	68	69
Surplus	2	4	6	2	5	1	3	5	1	3	3	4

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

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 May 15, 2023, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 21, 2023.

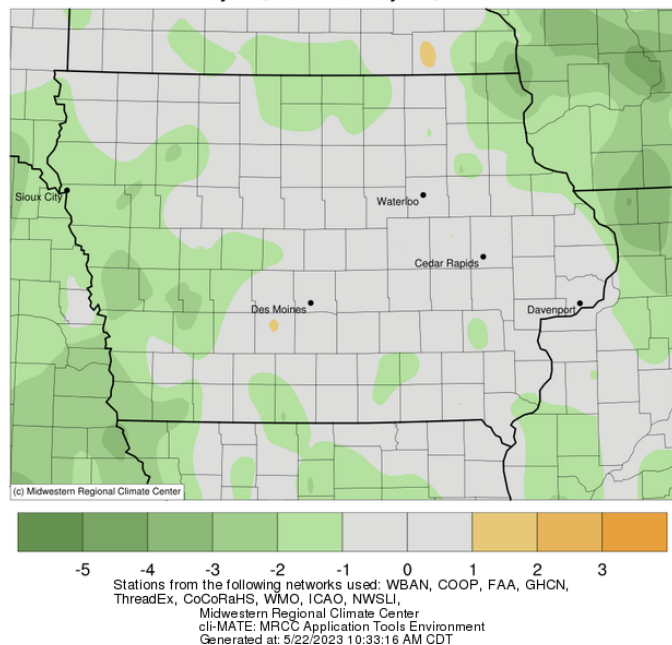
Canadian wildfire smoke was pervasive over Iowa on several days of the reporting period as a less active storm track brought widespread, though below-normal, rainfall. Most of Iowa's weather stations reported deficits of at least an inch with northeast and southwest stations slightly wetter. Temperatures were below normal across portions of western and northern Iowa with near-average conditions over the rest of the state; the statewide average temperature was 60.7 degrees, 2.1 degrees below normal.

Showers with moderate rainfall continued across northeastern Iowa through Sunday (14th) afternoon with temperatures ranging from the low 50s north to the 70s south. Thirteen stations near the state's eastern border reported over an inch of rain with Elma (Howard County) observing 2.75 inches as totals tailed off rapidly farther west. A low pressure spinning over Missouri brought additional showers to southwestern Iowa through the early morning hours on Monday (15th). Heavier rain was reported in slower moving cells, producing a pocket of 1.50-3.00 inches totals in Decatur County; Lamoni registered 2.75 inches with many southwestern stations that reported rainfall receiving at least 0.50 inches. Light rain lingered over southern Iowa as sunny skies prevailed in northern Iowa, where highs pushed into the upper 60s and low 70s. Winds shifted to the northwest overnight with Tuesday (16th) morning lows hovering in the low 60s statewide as clouds gradually diminished southwest. Daytime highs rose into the upper 70s and low 80s with low humidity and sunny skies. Cloudless conditions and light, variable winds were observed into Wednesday (17th) as Iowans experienced pleasant afternoon conditions. Daytime highs ranged from the mid-60s northeast to the low 80s southwest. Southeasterly winds developed through the nighttime hours in advance of a cold front to the west.

Thursday (18th) morning lows stayed in the 50s as dense Canadian wildfire smoke mixed down into the lower atmosphere across northwestern Iowa. Afternoon highs reached the low to mid 80s at many stations as the cold front moved into central Iowa. Thundershowers formed in the late afternoon as upper-level smoke overspread the skies behind the boundary. Rainfall totals reported at 7:00 am on Friday (19th) were generally under 0.20 inches, though a handful of stations reported higher totals ranging from 0.25 inches at Monticello (Jones County) to 0.52 inches in Randolph (Fremont County). Morning lows were still in the 60s in southeastern Iowa, while behind the front mid-40s to low 50s were experienced. The rising sun's color was vivid as the smoky haze remained into the afternoon with daytime highs in the upper 50s north to mid-60s south. Starry skies reigned into Saturday (20th) with chilly mid to upper 30s registering in western Iowa while the 40s blanketed eastern Iowa; the statewide average low was 41 degrees, 10 degrees below normal. Light wind and sunny skies remained through the day as upper 60s and low 70s produced ideal late spring conditions. Pockets of fog were observed into early Sunday (21st) with lows in the 40s to low 50s.

Weekly rain totals ranged from no accumulation at western and northern Iowa stations to 3.04 inches at Lamoni Municipal Airport. The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.29 inches, while the normal is 0.92 inches. Airports in Ames (Story County) and Waterloo (Black Hawk County) reported the week's high temperature of 85 degrees on the 18th, on average 12 degrees above normal. Atlantic (Cass County) reported the week's low temperature of 34 degrees on the 20th, 17 degrees below normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
 May 15, 2023 to May 21, 2023



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
 May 15, 2023 to May 21, 2023

