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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

September 18, 2023 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

The southern tier of Iowa received above average rainfall this week leading to 6.1 **days suitable for fieldwork** statewide during the week ending September 17, 2023, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Field activities included harvesting corn and soybeans. Some farmers were also working on their fourth cutting of alfalfa hay.

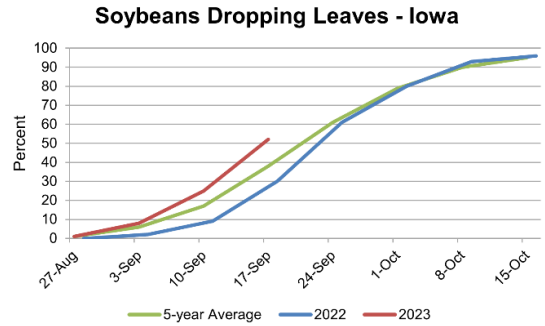
Topsoil moisture condition rated 34 percent very short, 45 percent short, 20 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 37 percent very short, 43 percent short, 19 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus.

Corn in the dent stage or beyond was 96 percent this week, 6 days ahead of last year and 11 days ahead of the 5-year average. Sixty-three percent of the State’s corn crop has reached maturity, 8 days ahead of both last year and normal. Corn harvested for grain reached 5 percent statewide, roughly 1 week ahead of both last year and the average. Moisture content of field corn being harvested for grain was at 22 percent. Corn condition improved slightly to 48 percent good to excellent. **Soybeans** coloring or beyond reached 86 percent, 6 days ahead of both last year and the average. Soybeans dropping leaves or beyond was 52 percent this week, 6 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of normal. Three percent of the soybean crop has been harvested. Soybean condition also rose slightly to 47 percent good to excellent.

Pasture condition rated 15 percent good to excellent. Getting water to livestock continued to be a challenge for producers this week, with reports of livestock taken off pastures where ponds and creeks have dried up.

Crop Condition as of September 17, 2023

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	5	10	37	43	5
Pasture and range .	23	25	37	13	2
Soybeans	4	10	39	41	6



Crop Progress as of September 17, 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 dented	99	96	94	96	96	98	96	93	95	96	90	92	89
Corn mature	61	48	66	69	71	75	63	40	56	63	38	39	42
Corn harvested for grain	3	3	6	6	6	4	6	5	3	5	2	2	2
Soybeans coloring	87	90	82	94	89	91	81	69	72	86	67	71	74
Soybeans dropping leaves ...	56	50	40	71	49	60	45	29	39	52	25	27	38

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of September 17, 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	5.7	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.5	5.7	6.1	5.5	5.7	6.1	6.5	5.8
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	23	36	52	40	35	43	18	7	41	34	37	14
Short	46	50	35	43	45	50	45	55	46	45	42	28
Adequate	30	14	12	17	20	7	35	35	13	20	21	57
Surplus	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	1
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	27	38	49	43	33	56	17	11	49	37	35	19
Short	43	49	39	43	43	39	46	56	40	43	43	31
Adequate	29	13	11	14	24	5	35	29	11	19	21	49
Surplus	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	4	0	1	1	1

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 September 11, 2023, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on September 17, 2023.

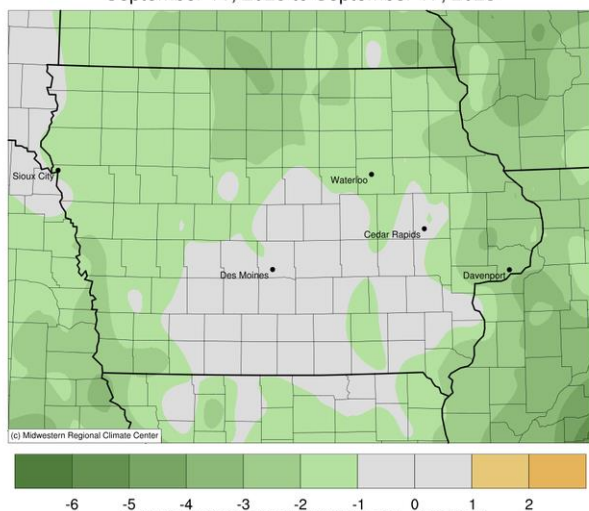
Portions of southern and eastern Iowa experienced above-normal rainfall as an active storm track brought widespread moisture to Iowa. The state's northeast corner continued to experience unseasonable dry conditions with weekly deficits approaching 0.80 inches. Near normal to cooler temperatures prevailed statewide with the weekly average temperature at 63.1 degrees, 0.8 degree below normal.

Showers and some thunderstorms gradually expanded over Iowa through Sunday (10th) afternoon with temperatures ranging from the mid-60s north to the low 80s south. Rain persisted overnight across Iowa's southeastern half through late Monday (11th) morning, gradually dissipating by noon. The southern half of Iowa received general rain totals above 0.50 inches from the event with much of northern Iowa reporting a few tenths. Nearly 60 stations collected at least an inch as south-central counties experienced the highest totals, ranging from 2.04 inches at Allerton (Wayne County) to 2.25 inches in Mount Ayr (Ringgold County); the statewide average total was 0.59 inches. Winds shifted to the northeast as clouds gradually thinned with afternoon highs in the low to mid 70s. Light showers pushed into northwest Iowa after midnight on Tuesday (12th) leaving Rock Rapids (Lyon County) with a 0.18-inch total before diminishing near daybreak. Morning lows were in the upper 40s and low 50s with clouds and patchy fog in northern Iowa. Daytime temperatures reached the 70s as scattered thunderstorms formed in north-central to eastern Iowa. The storms fizzled out after sunset, leaving behind general amounts under 0.25 inches; higher totals ranged from 0.32 inches at Hopkinton (Delaware County) to 0.47 inches near Clinton (Clinton County). Partly cloudy skies developed statewide into Wednesday (13th) with light northerly winds and lows in the upper 40s to low 50s at most stations. Afternoon conditions were cooler in northeast Iowa with highs in the mid-60s, while temperatures farther west were up to 15 degrees warmer.

Early Thursday (14th) temperatures showed a large spread across the state; northeast stations reported low to mid 40s while low 60s were reported in the southwest corner. Upper 70s and low 80s greeted Iowans through the day as southwesterly winds increased along with evening cloud cover in western Iowa, ahead of a cold front. Showers formed along the boundary into the daytime hours on Friday (15th) with widespread totals reported over Iowa's northwest corner. Scattered thundershowers fired in south-central Iowa along with an isolated severe-warned evening storm in Sioux County; Orange City measured a 0.77-inch total with Rock Rapids (Buena Vista County) reporting 0.90 inches. Totals outside of these higher amounts were a few tenths of an inch. Foggy conditions formed overnight into Saturday (16th) with lows behind the boundary in the upper 40s; temperatures ahead of the front remained in the mid-60s. A cluster of showers and thunderstorms pushed from central Iowa into the southeast corner through the afternoon hours as a secondary complex fired along the Mississippi River in northeastern Iowa. Rathbun Dam (Appanoose County) observed 0.50 inches with Chariton (Lucas County) and DeWitt (Clinton County) reporting 1.08 and 1.62 inches, respectively. Northwesterly winds built in overnight into Sunday (17th) as lows dropped into the upper 40s and low 50s.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.03 inches at Oelwein Municipal Airport (Fayette County) to 3.05 inches in DeWitt. The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.69 inches while the normal is 0.84 inches. Red Oak (Montgomery County) reported the week's high temperature of 87 degrees on the 10th, seven degrees above normal. Mason City Airport (Cerro Gordo County) reported the week's low temperature of 36 degrees on the 13th, 14 degrees below normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
September 11, 2023 to September 17, 2023



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
September 11, 2023 to September 17, 2023

