



Iowa Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

May 20, 2024 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Scattered showers across Iowa allowed farmers 3.8 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending May 19, 2024, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Farmers were planting corn and soybeans as well as cutting hay. Some replanting has occurred due to drowned out areas in fields.

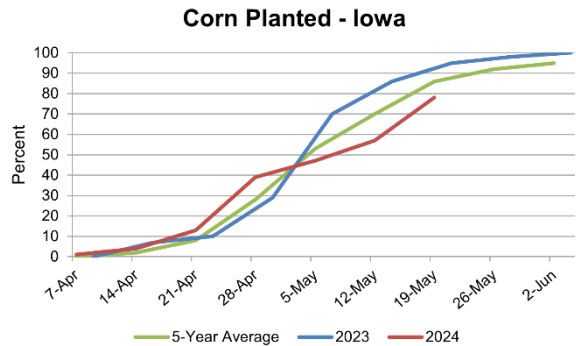
Topsoil moisture condition rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 77 percent adequate and 16 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 4 percent very short, 14 percent short, 73 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus.

Seventy-eight percent of Iowa’s expected **corn** crop has been planted, 8 days behind last year and 4 days behind the 5-year average. Forty-seven percent of the corn crop has emerged, 2 days behind of last year but equal to normal. Sixty-one percent of Iowa’s expected **soybean** crop has been planted, a week behind last year and 2 days behind the normal. Nearly one-quarter of the soybean crop has emerged, 3 days behind last year but equal to the average. Ninety-one percent of the expected **oat** crop has emerged, 5 days ahead of normal. Seventeen percent of the oat crop has headed, 6 days ahead of last year and almost 2 weeks ahead of the average. Oat condition remained 76 percent good to excellent.

Ten percent of the State’s first cutting of **alfalfa hay** has been completed. **Hay condition** rated 78 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** improved to 72 percent good to excellent. Reports of cleaning out bins and hauling grain to town.

Crop Condition as of May 19, 2024

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Hay, all	1	2	19	61	17
Oats	1	2	21	63	13
Pasture and range ..	1	5	22	55	17



Crop Progress as of May 19, 2024

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	82	82	76	83	74	85	70	62	70	78	57	92	86
Corn emerged	49	53	36	49	44	60	42	33	45	47	26	56	47
Hay, alfalfa, 1 st cutting	2	7	10	8	10	15	4	10	12	10	2	6	3
Oats emerged	99	99	87	86	93	97	91	83	83	91	81	91	84
Oats headed	19	23	15	20	33	24	5	7	7	17	2	8	3
Soybeans planted	59	58	65	64	65	78	54	41	59	61	39	80	67
Soybeans emerged	18	14	23	22	26	51	21	18	29	24	13	36	24

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 19, 2024

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	3.7	3.5	4.3	3.9	4.2	4.7	3.1	2.7	2.8	3.8	1.7	4.8
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	5
Short	2	1	13	6	7	14	8	6	2	6	7	20
Adequate	65	95	77	79	80	79	72	59	74	77	71	71
Surplus	33	4	8	14	10	6	20	35	24	16	21	4
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	0	1	6	5	6	8	2	0	2	4	4	7
Short	5	9	17	18	20	20	23	9	5	14	17	25
Adequate	72	85	69	68	70	68	70	77	82	73	67	65
Surplus	23	5	8	9	4	4	5	14	11	9	12	3

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 May 13, 2024, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 19, 2024.

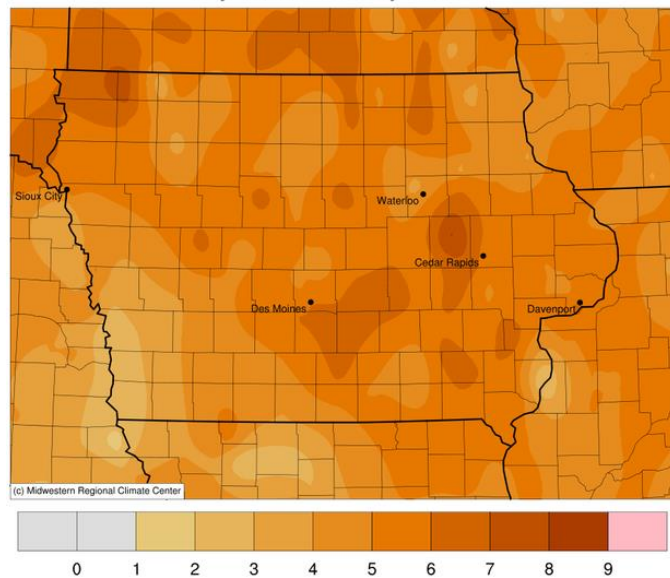
While rainfall was widespread across the state through the reporting period, a less active storm track produced drier than average conditions over most of Iowa. Unseasonable warmth continued as well with positive departures of nearly six degrees in small pockets of east-central and northern Iowa; the statewide average temperature was 64.7 degrees, 3.2 degrees above normal.

Spotty showers and a few thunderstorms popped up over northern Iowa later Sunday (12th) afternoon with daytime highs in the 80s and gusty southwesterly winds. A larger complex of showers associated with a low pressure center spinning over northern Missouri filled in overnight into Monday (13th) morning. Two areas of rainfall persisted in southwest and eastern Iowa before redevelopment occurred over southern Iowa into the afternoon hours. Much of northern Iowa was clear with Canadian wildfire smoke drifting in on northerly winds; temperatures were in the low 70s under sunshine and up to 15 degrees cooler south where clouds and rain persisted. Heavier, slow-moving thundershowers were also reported in central Iowa with two Indianola (Warren County) stations collecting 3.20 inches. Showers eventually dissipated as the disturbance propagated east, though overcast skies remained on the backside of the system. Tuesday (14th) morning lows varied from the mid 40s northwest to low 60s southeast with widespread event rain totals of at least 0.50 inches across Iowa's southern one-third. Nearly 60 stations in south-central and southwestern Iowa measured an inch or more; New Market (Taylor County) observed 2.02 inches while 3.02 inches fell in Russell (Lucas County) with an overall statewide average of 0.46 inches. Winds shifted to the east during the day with mostly clear skies in western and northern Iowa; temperatures held in the mid to upper 60s in eastern Iowa where cloud cover remained.

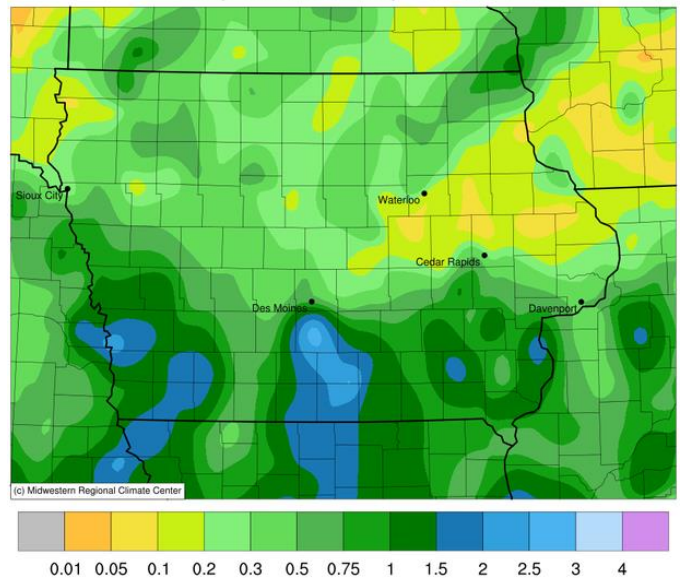
Early Wednesday (15th) temperatures dropped into the upper 40s northeast while 50s were reported farther west with areas of fog. A southerly shifting wind and overall sunny skies led to pleasant conditions as temperatures rose into the low to mid 70s. Clouds increased in western Iowa as showers and thunderstorms developed along a cold front into the evening. Rainfall was reported across Iowa's northwestern half as a drier atmosphere helped dissipate showers in eastern Iowa. Totals reported at 7:00 am on Thursday (16th) were generally under 0.20-0.30 inch though embedded pockets of heavier totals were also observed; a 0.78-inch measurement was taken at Emmetsburg (Palo Alto County) with 1.45 inches in Blencoe (Harrison County). Westerly winds held through the day with afternoon highs in the 70s under mostly sunny skies. Clearing skies remained overnight as winds became light, allowing for scattered pockets of fog to form. Friday (17th) was unseasonably warm with strong southerly winds boosting highs into the mid to upper 80s northwest with low to mid 80s farther east. Overnight temperatures, in the 60s, were 10-15 degrees above normal as spotty clouds transited across central Iowa. Saturday (18th) was the warmest day of the week with widespread mid to upper 80s along with a few 90-degree readings; the statewide average high was 85 degrees, 12 degrees above normal. Spotty thundershowers formed along a weak cold front that was pushing through eastern Iowa into the evening hours; winds swung around to the north behind the boundary. Sunday (19th) morning lows ranged from the low 50s north to low 60s south.

Weekly rain totals ranged from 0.02 inches in Monticello (Jones County) to 3.25 inches in Promise City (Wayne County). The statewide weekly average rainfall was 0.65 inches; the normal is 1.10 inches. Several stations reported the week's high temperature of 90 degrees on the 18th, on average 17 degrees above average. Decorah (Winnebago County) reported the week's low temperature of 34 degrees on the 15th, 14 degrees below normal. Four-inch soil temperatures were in the 60s as of Sunday.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
May 13, 2024 to May 19, 2024



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
May 13, 2024 to May 19, 2024



Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at:
<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>