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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

August 19, 2024 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Iowa farmers averaged 4.8 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending August 18, 2024, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Field activities included cutting and baling hay and preparing for the fall harvest.

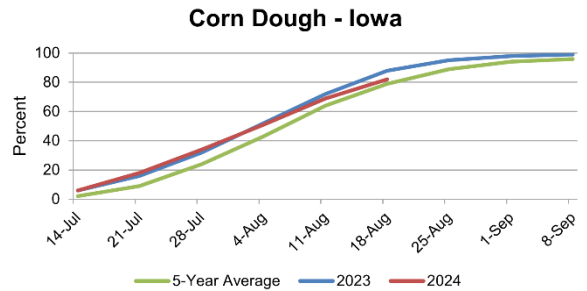
**Topsoil moisture** condition rated 2 percent very short, 17 percent short, 77 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 3 percent very short, 16 percent short, 77 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus.

**Corn** in the dough stage or beyond reached 82 percent this week, 3 days behind last year but 2 days ahead of the five-year average. Twenty-eight percent of the corn crop has reached the dent stage, 3 days behind last year but 1 day ahead of the five-year average. The corn crop has just begun to mature. Corn condition was rated at 77 percent good to excellent. Ninety-six percent of **soybeans** were blooming with 83 percent setting pods, 1 week behind last year and 3 days behind average. Soybeans have just begun turning color. Soybean condition was 77 percent good to excellent. Ninety-six percent of **oats** have been harvested for grain.

The State’s third cutting of **alfalfa hay** reached 63 percent, 1 week behind last year but 4 days ahead of the five-year average. **Hay condition** rated 79 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** rated 72 percent good to excellent.

**Crop Condition as of August 18, 2024**

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn .....	1	4	18	57	20
Hay, all .....	0	3	18	61	18
Pasture and range ..	1	4	23	59	13
Soybeans .....	1	4	18	57	20



**Crop Progress as of August 18, 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 dough .....	74	91	79	85	80	80	81	71	90	82	69	88	79
Corn dented .....	35	28	27	20	22	34	31	27	37	28	17	34	27
Hay, alfalfa, 3rd cutting .....	76	57	57	53	51	72	66	71	57	63	45	78	55
Oats harvested for grain .....	96	99	98	94	95	92	99	92	97	96	93	97	95
Soybeans blooming .....	99	98	93	97	94	98	92	88	99	96	94	99	97
Soybeans setting pods .....	83	88	78	91	77	87	75	80	88	83	74	92	86

**Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of August 18, 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 .....	5.5	5.4	5.4	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.1	3.9	4.8	4.8	6.4	6.3
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	5	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	3	15
Short .....	18	21	15	25	9	3	16	33	13	17	20	38
Adequate .....	75	75	82	69	86	90	79	61	78	77	72	46
Surplus .....	2	2	2	5	3	7	4	6	9	4	5	1
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	5	2	0	9	2	0	4	1	1	3	3	19
Short .....	13	10	17	22	13	6	19	35	13	16	16	44
Adequate .....	79	84	81	64	82	92	73	58	80	77	77	36
Surplus .....	3	4	2	5	3	2	4	6	6	4	4	1

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at [www.nass.usda.gov/Publications](http://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 August 12, 2024, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on August 18, 2024.*

Widespread rainfall was observed through the reporting period with above-normal totals in southern and western Iowa. Overall conditions were generally cool and pleasant for the Iowa State Fair. Temperatures across Iowa varied from near-normal to nearly four degrees below normal in the northwest; the statewide average temperature of 70.0 degrees, 2.2 degrees below normal.

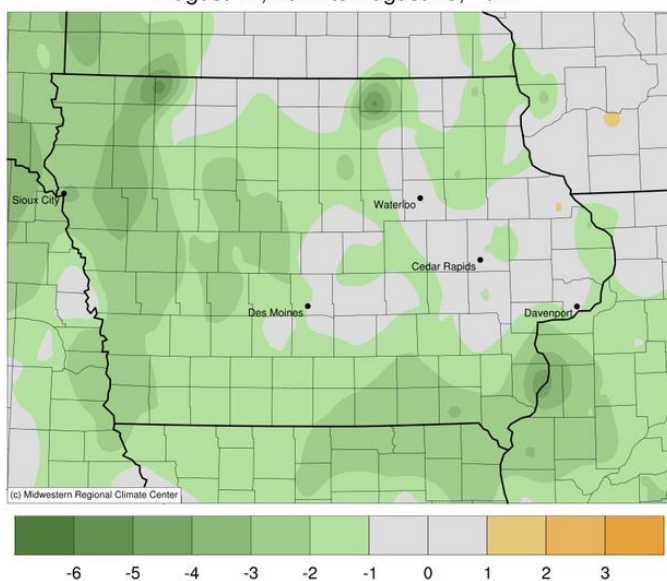
Partly sunny skies persisted across eastern Iowa through Sunday (11<sup>th</sup>) afternoon as clouds increased farther west. Daytime temperatures held in the 70s and southerly winds developed in advance of the next weather system to impact Iowa. Showers and a few thunderstorms pushed into Iowa overnight and expanded to cover most of the state by daybreak on Monday (12<sup>th</sup>). Light showers remained in east-central Iowa through the afternoon hours as temperatures varied from the upper 60s west to upper 70s east. Most stations in the southwestern two-thirds of Iowa reported at least 0.25 inches with widespread 0.50-1.00 inch readings across swaths of central and southern Iowa; two stations in Council Bluffs (Pottawattamie County) registered 2.19 and 2.70 inches. Overcast clouds remained over most of the state into Tuesday (13<sup>th</sup>) morning with upper 50s and low 60s over northern Iowa along with widespread fog; temperatures were five to 10 degrees warmer farther south. Afternoon temperatures rose into the 70s with spotty low-80 degree readings in far eastern Iowa where skies were clear. Winds shifted to an east-southeasterly direction through the early morning hours on Wednesday (14<sup>th</sup>) as stronger storms with moderate to heavy rainfall moved into southwestern Iowa ahead of an outflow boundary. Rain continued over much of southern Iowa through late morning as a secondary complex of showers propagated over northern Iowa into the afternoon and early evening hours. A warm front associated with a low pressure center over Minnesota lifted over southwestern Iowa and acted as a focusing mechanism for additional storms into the nighttime hours. More widespread development occurred through the early hours of Thursday (15<sup>th</sup>) with showers finally moving out of eastern Iowa by noon. More than half of Iowa's stations observed at least 0.80 inches of rainfall with nearly 155 stations hitting one inch or more. Forty stations in eastern and southern Iowa registered at least 2.00 inches; Truro (Madison County) collected 3.00 inches with an additional 3.48 inches in Council Bluffs. The statewide average for the event was 0.97 inches.

A mid-level disturbance behind the exiting system fired isolated storms, some severe warned, across southern Iowa into the evening. Heavier rainfall was reported over counties adjacent to the Mississippi River, from 0.65 inches in Keokuk (Lee County) to 1.47 inches at Bellevue Lock and Dam (Jackson County). Totals into east-central Iowa tapered off to a few tenths. Starry skies were visible at sunrise on Friday (16<sup>th</sup>) as morning lows dropped into the mid to upper 60s with a westerly wind. Increasing clouds over northern Iowa held high temperatures in the mid to upper 70s while conditions approached the upper 80s in the southwest. Scattered thundershowers developed in northeast Iowa on the backside of the low pressure feature over the Great Lakes. A handful of stations reported measurable totals with 0.21 inches in Osage (Mitchell County) to 0.85 inches in Decorah (Winneshek County). Widespread cloud cover formed into Saturday (17<sup>th</sup>) with morning temperatures in the low 60s west to upper 60s east under northwesterly winds. Afternoon conditions were pleasant for much of Iowa with upper mid 70s to low 80s statewide and a few passing showers in eastern Iowa. Patchy fog was observed on Sunday (18<sup>th</sup>) morning with lows in the mid to upper 50s northwest.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.38 inch at Oelwein Municipal Airport (Fayette County) to 5.67 inches in Council Bluffs. The statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.33 inches while the normal is 0.93 inches. Several stations reported the week's high temperature of 89 degrees on the 16<sup>th</sup>, on average five degrees above normal. Multiple stations reported the week's low temperature of 48 degrees on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, on average 12 degrees below normal.

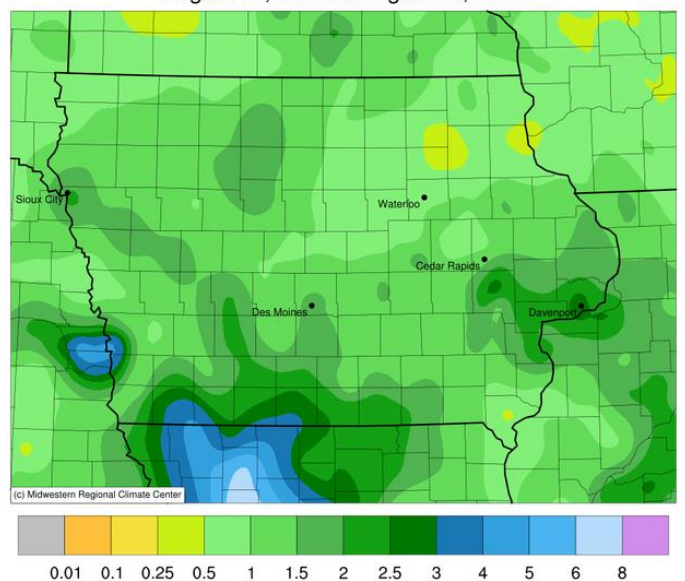
**Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals**

August 12, 2024 to August 18, 2024



**Accumulated Precipitation (in)**

August 12, 2024 to August 18, 2024



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