



Iowa Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

August 26, 2024 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

The State experienced mostly dry weather this week. These conditions allowed Iowa farmers **6.4 days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending August 25, 2024, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Primary field activities continued to be cutting and baling hay and preparing for the fall harvest.

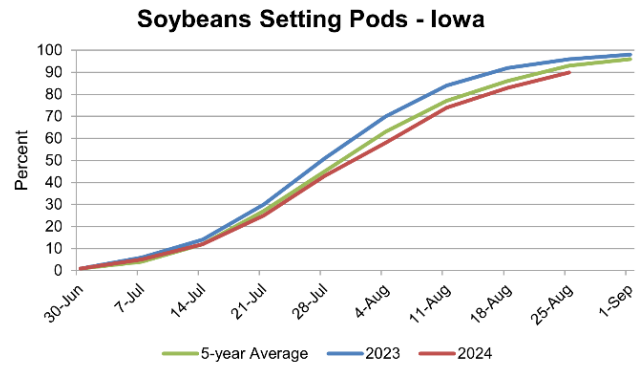
Topsoil moisture condition rated 3 percent very short, 23 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 3 percent very short, 20 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Corn in the dough stage or beyond reached 90 percent this week, 6 days behind last year but 1 day ahead of the five-year average. Forty-five percent of the corn crop reached the dent stage or beyond, 3 days behind last year. Corn mature reached 4 percent. Corn condition rated 77 percent good to excellent. **Soybeans** setting pods reached 90 percent, 9 days behind last year and 3 days behind the five-year average. Soybeans coloring reached 5 percent, 4 days behind last year and 2 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 77 percent good to excellent.

The State's third cutting of alfalfa hay reached 79 percent, 6 days behind last year but 6 days ahead of the five-year average. **Hay condition** rated 77 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** rated 65 percent good to excellent. As temperatures rose at the end of the week, stress became a concern for livestock.

Crop Condition as of August 25, 2024

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	1	4	18	57	20
Hay, all	0	3	20	57	20
Pasture and range ..	1	4	30	53	12
Soybeans	1	4	18	58	19



Crop Progress as of August 25, 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	86	97	88	89	90	88	89	86	95	90	82	95	89
Corn dented	47	45	44	41	33	56	44	41	59	45	28	55	46
Hay, alfalfa, 3rd cutting	81	71	82	75	71	83	82	79	75	79	63	88	68
Soybeans setting pods	92	94	88	94	85	93	86	86	93	90	83	96	93
Soybeans coloring	5	2	3	4	4	8	7	6	10	5	1	12	9

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of August 25, 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	6.2	6.5	6.5	5.9	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4	4.8	6.5
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	6	3	1	4	3	2	1	0	4	3	2	23
Short	21	27	32	33	14	9	18	38	20	23	17	45
Adequate	72	68	66	60	81	87	77	58	75	72	77	31
Surplus	1	2	1	3	2	2	4	4	1	2	4	1
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	5	3	1	9	2	1	5	0	1	3	3	28
Short	17	14	31	25	17	10	18	42	18	20	16	45
Adequate	76	81	67	61	80	88	73	51	80	75	77	26
Surplus	2	2	1	5	1	1	4	7	1	2	4	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 August 19, 2024, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on August 25, 2024.

Rainfall was observed across Iowa's western two-thirds early in the reporting period, though totals were 0.40 to 0.80 inches below normal; in eastern Iowa, deficits were over an inch in certain locations. Temperatures varied from slightly warmer across the northwest to four degrees below normal southeast; the statewide average temperature was 68.4 degrees, 3.2 degrees below normal.

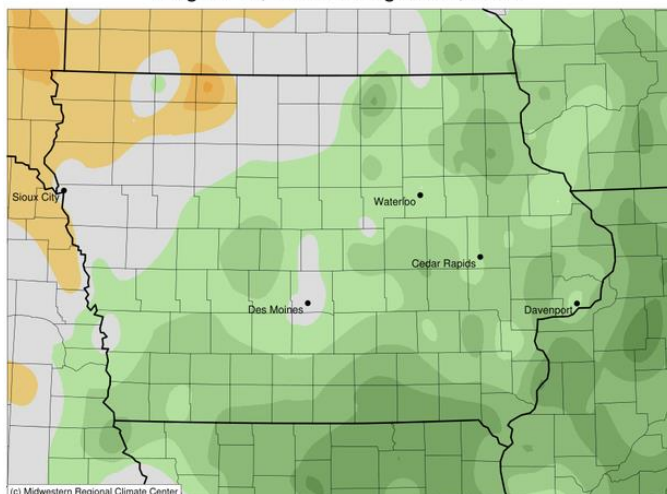
Partly cloudy skies developed over eastern Iowa through Sunday (18th) afternoon with light northerly winds and temperatures in the upper 70s and low 80s. Foggy conditions were observed overnight into Monday (19th) in the absence of strong winds and aided by clear skies for radiational cooling. The smell of Canadian wildfire smoke was also reported across the Upper Midwest from particulate mixing down into the lower atmospheric boundary layer. Northerly winds increased through the day with mid to upper 70s in eastern Iowa and low 80s farther west under sunny skies. Winds became variable after midnight as light rain showers moved along the Iowa-Nebraska border. Showers expanded over northern and central Iowa through much of Tuesday (20th) as daytime temperatures held in the 70s. Event rain totals were generally in the 0.10 to 0.25 inch range for most stations receiving rain. Pockets of southeast, central and northwest Iowa reported totals of more than 0.50 inches; Orange City (Sioux County) registered 0.51 inches while several stations in Lyon County had the highest totals, including a 0.71-inch reading at Larchwood. Mostly cloudy conditions persisted into Wednesday (21st) morning with temperatures in the upper 50s east to mid 60s west. Afternoon conditions remained partly cloudy in western Iowa while clearing occurred in eastern Iowa; afternoon temperatures remained in the low to mid 70s with southeasterly winds. A high pressure center dominating the Upper Midwest pushed farther east overnight with scattered clouds pushing into western Iowa. Thursday (22nd) morning temperatures ranged from the low 50s in eastern Iowa to low 60s west as winds shifted southerly; several eastern stations reported lows in the mid to upper 40s.

Afternoon conditions were ideal with sunny skies, light southerly winds and highs in the 70s. Overcast skies developed near daybreak on Friday (23rd) over northwest Iowa, where low temperatures stayed in the mid 60s; temperatures were five to 10 degrees cooler in eastern Iowa where clear skies and isolated fog were observed. Daytime temperatures were near-seasonal, in the upper 70s and low 80s, with mostly sunny skies. Cloud cover increased in southwestern Iowa through the nighttime hours with isolated thundershowers in west-central Iowa near sunrise on Saturday (24th). A handful of stations received measurable totals with 0.03 inches at Atlantic Municipal Airport (Cass County) and 0.41 inches in Jefferson (Greene County). Temperatures warmed into the mid to upper 80s across much of Iowa with mixed cloud cover in western and central Iowa. Overnight lows into Sunday (25th) were in the mid 60s to mid 70s with a statewide average low of 67 degrees, eight degrees above normal.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from no accumulation across eastern Iowa to 0.93 inches at Rock Rapids (Lyon County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.08 inches while the normal is 0.93 inches. Lowden (Cedar County) reported the week's high temperature of 90 degrees on the 24th, eight degrees above normal. Elkader (Clayton County) reported the week's low temperature of 44 degrees on the 22nd, 13 degrees below normal.

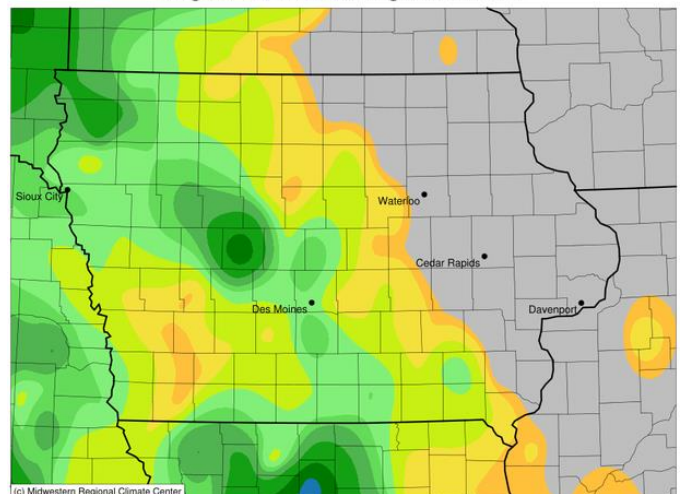
Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

August 19, 2024 to August 25, 2024



Accumulated Precipitation (in)

August 19, 2024 to August 25, 2024



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