

Iowa Crops & Weather



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For the week ending April 3, 2005

Spring is Here Fieldwork has Begun

Agricultural Summary: Warmer temperatures have triggered the onset of Spring fieldwork for Iowa farmers. While some areas remain too wet for field activities, other farmers have begun applying lime and fertilizer, tilling, planting oats and applying nitrogen. There were a few reports of tiles running throughout the state.

There were 3.5 **days suitable for fieldwork**, compared to 2.7 days last year at this time. **Topsoil moisture** rated 3 percent very short, 14 percent short, 77 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus across the state. **Subsoil moisture** rated 3 percent very short, 19 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. This overwhelmingly adequate topsoil moisture rating is very similar to conditions reported a year ago.

Field Crops Report: **Oats seedings** were 33 percent complete, ahead of both last year's progress at 14 percent and the five-year average of 28 percent. No significant **corn planting** was reported in the state. **Primary seedbed preparations** were 34 percent complete compared to 32 percent last year and 44 percent for the five-year average. **Fertilizer applications**, at 56 percent, were 7 percent above last year and the five-year average.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Calving was well underway with mainly favorable conditions reported. Lambing was reported as nearly complete with equally favorable conditions persisting. Drier weather helped reduce both calving and lambing problems. **Pasture and range** condition rated 5 percent very poor, 15 percent poor, 32 percent fair,

43 percent good and 5 percent excellent. The warmer temperatures have promoted growth and development.

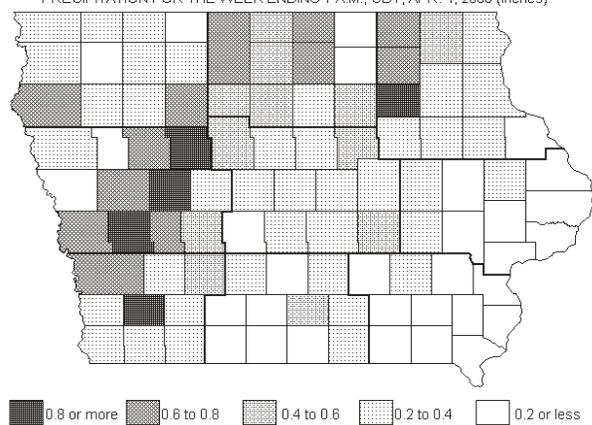
Iowa Weather Summary

The past week brought unseasonably mild temperatures to Iowa as well as the first widespread severe weather outbreak of the year. Daytime temperatures climbed into the upper 60's east to upper 70's west on Monday (28th) and were in the 70's in most areas on Tuesday (29th). A strong low pressure system brought lower temperatures and widespread thunderstorm activity on Wednesday (30th). Severe storms were reported from 26 counties although damage was limited to a few isolated events. Highs on Wednesday were only in the 50's west but climbed to the 70's east prior to the cold frontal passage. Light rain fell across eastern Iowa early Thursday (31st) with dry weather prevailing for the remainder of the week. Daytime temperatures on Thursday and Friday (1st) were in the middle 50's to low 60's and warmed a few more degrees on Saturday (2nd). Finally, temperatures on Sunday (3rd) were in the 70's in most areas. Temperature extremes for the week ranged from 82 degrees on Monday (28th) afternoon at Sioux City and again at Glenwood on Tuesday to a low of 18 degrees at Mapleton on Saturday (2nd) morning. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 8.9 degrees above normal. Precipitation, nearly all of which fell on Wednesday, varied from only traces at the Estherville Airport and at Bloomfield to 1.32 inches at the Harlan Airport. The statewide average precipitation was 0.34 inches or only slightly more than half of the weekly average of 0.66 inches. This was the seventh consecutive week of below normal precipitation. Finally, soil temperatures were averaging near 50 degrees statewide as of Sunday (3rd).

Statewide Crop Conditions as of April 3, 2005

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	5	15	32	43	5

State Climatologist, Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
 PRECIPITATION FOR THE WEEK ENDING 7 A.M., CDT, APR. 4, 2005 (inches)



Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 3, 2005

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent					
Fertilizer application completed	36	53	34	54	69	70	75	70	61	56	NA	49	49	
Seedbed, primary preparation completed	20	29	26	39	33	41	37	46	49	34	NA	32	44	
Oats planted	13	5	8	44	44	49	62	59	42	33	NA	14	28	

NA = Not available.

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 3, 2005

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days				
Days suitable	2.2	2.0	2.3	4.1	4.6	4.7	4.2	4.6	5.4	3.5	NA	2.7	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	10	3	0	1	0	2	3	NA	2	
Short	8	7	9	20	11	16	39	17	12	14	NA	8	
Adequate	79	87	81	69	82	80	60	70	77	77	NA	78	
Surplus	12	6	10	1	5	4	0	13	6	6	NA	12	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	0	4	1	6	4	0	1	3	2	3	NA	6	
Short	13	15	15	31	28	12	28	25	20	19	NA	25	
Adequate	81	77	75	61	66	80	70	70	72	73	NA	63	
Surplus	6	3	9	2	2	7	1	2	6	5	NA	6	

NA = Not available.

Weather Summary For Iowa Agricultural Statistics Service
Prepared by AWIS, Inc.
For the week ending: Sunday, April 3, 2005

STATION	CURRENT WEEK				SINCE APRIL 1				CURRENT WEEK	
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
North West District										
Estherville	71	25	47	11	0.00	-0.56	0.00	-0.24	16	16
Sioux Center	76	22	51	11	0.25	-0.26	0.00	-0.22	28	20
Spencer	76	21	49	10	0.20	-0.36	0.00	-0.24	23	16
Spirit Lake	72	27	52	16	0.15	-0.34	0.00	-0.21	33	25
North Central District										
Britt	71	26	48	8	0.32	-0.25	0.00	-0.25	15	8
Humboldt	74	29	49	8	0.52	-0.09	0.00	-0.27	21	14
Mason City	73	25	49	11	0.81	0.24	0.00	-0.25	23	16
Northwood	68	30	47	10	0.76	0.16	0.00	-0.27	7	7
North East District										
Decorah	74	26	50	11	0.17	-0.47	0.03	-0.26	21	14
Dubuque	70	30	50	10	0.09	-0.69	0.00	-0.34	20	13
Elkader	74	24	49	9	0.44	-0.18	0.00	-0.27	20	6
Independence	73	28	48	9	0.38	-0.25	0.00	-0.28	13	-1
Waterloo	74	26	51	11	0.36	-0.29	0.00	-0.29	33	26
West Central District										
Audubon	76	23	48	5	0.62	-0.02	0.00	-0.28	18	4
Carroll	77	27	51	10	1.20	0.55	0.00	-0.29	24	17
Castana	76	28	49	6	0.29	-0.27	0.00	-0.24	21	14
Guthrie Center	77	19	49	7	0.08	-0.60	0.00	-0.30	22	9
Harlan	78	24	49	6	1.02	0.41	0.00	-0.27	22	15
Jefferson	75	28	50	9	0.27	-0.38	0.00	-0.29	20	13
Logan	78	24	49	6	1.04	0.48	0.00	-0.24	23	9
Rockwell City	76	28	50	8	0.85	0.30	0.00	-0.24	18	8
Sioux City	82	23	51	9	0.52	0.03	0.00	-0.21	32	18
Central District										
Ames	75	29	51	11	0.35	-0.29	0.00	-0.28	29	22
Boone	76	26	50	9	0.18	-0.48	0.00	-0.30	25	18
Des Moines	77	30	54	10	0.46	-0.22	0.00	-0.30	38	24
Eldora	73	30	51	11	0.56	-0.04	0.00	-0.27	23	16
Marshalltown	73	26	50	9	0.35	-0.31	0.00	-0.30	28	21
Newton	74	29	50	7	0.24	-0.39	0.00	-0.27	16	2
Perry	77	26	50	9	0.30	-0.30	0.00	-0.27	20	13
Toledo	72	28	49	9	0.22	-0.41	0.00	-0.27	17	10
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	74	28	51	10	0.14	-0.52	0.00	-0.30	29	22
Davenport	75	26	51	8	0.05	-0.62	0.00	-0.30	24	16
Iowa City	76	31	54	9	0.03	-0.70	0.00	-0.33	34	20
Lowden	75	24	49	8	0.10	-0.64	0.00	-0.33	18	11
Maquoketa	72	24	48	8	0.11	-0.55	0.00	-0.30	11	4
Muscatine	73	30	50	6	0.01	-0.76	0.00	-0.33	18	11
South West District										
Clarinda	77	21	48	5	0.35	-0.34	0.00	-0.30	22	15
Glenwood	82	25	51	7	0.34	-0.22	0.00	-0.24	28	14
Oakland	78	24	49	8	0.66	0.05	0.00	-0.27	23	16
Red Oak	78	24	50	5	0.88	0.21	0.00	-0.30	22	8
Sidney	78	31	51	7	0.23	-0.40	0.00	-0.27	25	11
South Central District										
Allerton	73	28	49	6	0.17	-0.50	0.00	-0.30	17	13
Beaconsfield	74	28	49	6	0.00	-0.66	0.00	-0.30	15	5
Chariton	74	24	50	7	0.48	-0.22	0.00	-0.31	23	10
Indianola	77	28	51	8	0.07	-0.61	0.00	-0.30	25	11
Leon	76	24	50	7	0.18	-0.50	0.00	-0.30	17	6
South East District										
Bloomfield	75	31	51	5	0.00	-0.72	0.00	-0.32	21	5
Burlington	76	30	53	9	0.04	-0.73	0.00	-0.33	35	21
Ottumwa	75	30	53	8	0.15	-0.51	0.00	-0.30	33	19

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Copyright 2005: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.