

# Iowa Crops & Weather



USDA – National Agricultural Statistical Service  
Iowa Field Office

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For the week ending November 20, 2005

## Precipitation Hinders Fieldwork

Cooler temperatures, rain and snow throughout much of Iowa slowed fieldwork this past week. All weather stations reported some precipitation. In spite of the precipitation, over half of the state's topsoil moisture remained in the very short to short categories. When conditions permitted, farmers continued corn harvesting, fertilizing and tilling.

There were 3.5 days suitable for fieldwork, compared to 6.3 days the previous week. Topsoil moisture improved from a week ago and rated 22 percent very short, 35 percent short, 39 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus across Iowa. Subsoil moisture rated lower than a week ago at 33 percent very short, 33 percent short, 32 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus across Iowa.

Field Crops Report: **Corn harvested** reached 98 percent complete which was 5 percentage points above a year ago but equal to the normal pace. **Fall fertilizer application** was 56 percent complete statewide which is 12 percentage points above the 5-year average. Grain movement from farm to elevator was rated 36 percent none, 36 percent light, 23 percent moderate and 5 percent heavy. **Off-farm grain storage** availability rated 65 percent short, 34 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. **On-farm grain storage** availability rated 56 percent short, 43 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. **Hay and roughage availability** rated 8 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 13 percent surplus. The **quality of hay and roughage** rated 7 percent poor, 31 percent fair and 62 percent good. **Utilization of stubble fields for grazing** rated 33 percent none, 28 percent light, 31 percent moderate and 8 percent heavy.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Reports of calves having been weaned and marketed were received. Favorable Fall weather was expected to lower calf losses.

## Iowa Weather Summary

The past work week began with seasonal temperatures on Monday (14th) with light rain falling across the southeast one-half of the state. The season's first winter storm moved into western Iowa early on Tuesday (15th) and exited northeast Iowa on Wednesday (16th) afternoon. Snowfall of one to two inches fell over most of the northwest three-fourths of Iowa with a few locally higher amounts. The snow was preceded with light to moderate rain over most of the state and accompanied by very gusty northwest winds. Sharply colder air followed this storm system with temperatures falling into the single digits in most areas by Wednesday (16th) morning while daytime highs remained below freezing on Wednesday and Thursday. Temperatures were back above normal by Friday (18th) afternoon with daytime highs mostly in the 40's through the weekend. Finally, light rain fell across portions of western Iowa on Saturday (19th). Temperature extremes for the week ranged from a Wednesday (16th) morning low of -1 degree at Sibley to a Saturday (19th) afternoon high of 54 degrees at Burlington. Sibley's Wednesday minimum was Iowa's earliest subzero reading since 1997. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 3.3 degrees below normal. Precipitation totals for the week varied from 0.22 inches at Alton to 1.04 inches at Marion. The statewide average precipitation was 0.58 inches or just slightly greater than the weekly normal of 0.50 inches. This breaks a string of seven consecutive drier than normal weeks across Iowa. Finally, soil temperatures as of Sunday (20th) were averaging in the upper 30's to lower 40's across the state.

State Post-Harvest Conditions  
as of November 20, 2005

Item	None	Light	Moderate	Heavy
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Grain movement	36	36	23	5
Grazing on stubble fields	33	28	31	8

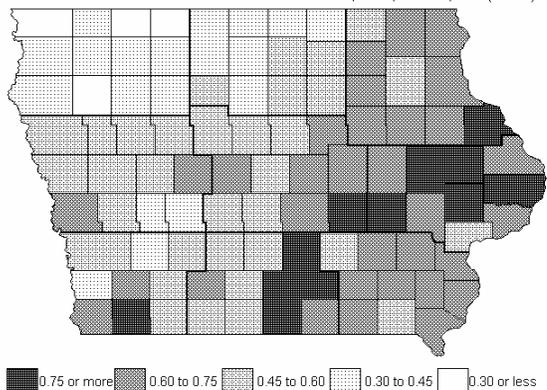
Statewide Hay/Roughage Availability  
as of November 20, 2005

Item	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Hay/Roughage	8	79	13

Statewide Grain Storage Availability  
as of November 20, 2005

Item	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent
On-farm, grain storage	56	43	1
Off-farm, grain storage	65	34	1

State Climatologist, Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship  
PRECIPITATION FOR THE WEEK ENDING 7 A.M. CST, MON., NOV. 21, 2005 (inches)



Field Work and Crop Progress as of November 20, 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	52	77	69	54	60	54	35	37	46	56	44	40	44	

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of November 20, 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	3.2	3.5	4.3	3.1	3.0	4.3	2.7	3.0	5.3	3.5	6.3	3.9	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	4	0	11	27	23	34	37	44	23	22	30	2	
Short	20	13	27	34	40	47	49	42	51	35	32	11	
Adequate	75	64	55	39	37	19	14	9	26	39	36	71	
Surplus	1	23	7	0	0	0	0	5	0	4	2	16	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	3	0	19	34	22	70	55	65	44	33	33	6	
Short	16	17	29	51	43	29	35	32	43	33	29	22	
Adequate	81	69	47	15	35	1	10	3	13	32	36	63	
Surplus	0	14	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	9	

**Weather Summary For Iowa Agricultural Statistics Service**  
**Prepared by AWIS, Inc.**  
**For the week ending: Sunday, November 20, 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	47	4	31	-1	0.28	0.00	22.77	-0.76	0	0
Sioux Center	50	4	33	-2	0.29	0.01	20.97	-1.97	0	0
Spencer	49	0	31	-3	0.31	0.05	23.03	-1.34	0	0
Spirit Lake	45	6	30	-2	0.18	-0.10	26.33	3.20	0	0
North Central District										
Britt	47	4	28	-7	0.45	0.10	33.16	7.55	0	0
Humboldt	48	5	30	-6	0.56	0.25	30.23	4.03	0	0
Mason City	49	4	31	-2	0.60	0.25	35.91	8.63	0	0
Northwood	47	3	29	-4	0.56	0.21	36.71	10.05	0	0
North East District										
Decorah	43	4	30	-6	0.76	0.36	26.34	-0.51	0	0
Dubuque	47	4	31	-5	0.89	0.23	19.18	-10.86	0	0
Elkader	46	5	29	-7	0.65	0.16	24.47	-2.48	0	0
Independence	48	5	30	-5	0.69	0.27	30.15	1.75	0	0
Waterloo	50	5	32	-4	0.61	0.19	25.39	-2.28	0	0
West Central District										
Audubon	48	1	30	-8	0.12	-0.23	21.84	-5.32	0	0
Carroll	50	3	30	-5	0.44	0.09	19.93	-7.77	0	0
Castana	48	6	29	-8	0.58	0.30	21.34	-3.69	0	0
Guthrie Center	50	6	31	-6	0.57	0.16	29.07	1.28	0	0
Harlan	52	5	31	-6	0.44	0.09	19.68	-7.84	0	0
Jefferson	52	6	31	-4	0.66	0.31	22.80	-4.90	0	0
Logan	52	6	32	-6	0.57	0.28	21.39	-4.56	0	0
Rockwell City	51	4	30	-7	0.47	0.19	25.81	-0.87	0	0
Sioux City	52	6	34	-2	0.36	0.12	21.45	-0.11	0	0
Central District										
Ames	51	3	32	-4	0.56	0.18	26.23	-2.55	0	0
Boone	51	4	31	-6	0.70	0.28	25.79	-2.59	0	0
Des Moines	52	7	34	-5	0.56	0.14	22.09	-4.79	0	0
Eldora	50	5	30	-6	0.62	0.21	24.68	-3.40	0	0
Marshalltown	50	2	31	-5	0.52	0.10	21.61	-6.74	0	0
Newton	50	7	30	-8	0.53	0.10	26.19	-1.56	0	0
Perry	51	5	31	-6	0.55	0.20	26.76	0.05	0	0
Toledo	49	5	30	-7	0.52	0.10	20.87	-7.71	0	0
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	49	7	32	-5	0.75	0.26	21.06	-6.08	0	0
Davenport	59	10	36	-3	0.68	0.19	12.56	-14.37	0	0
Iowa City	53	12	37	-3	0.93	0.44	14.26	-15.52	0	0
Lowden	52	7	31	-6	0.97	0.34	18.79	-11.56	0	0
Maquoketa	48	7	30	-6	0.77	0.21	14.58	-13.23	0	0
Muscatine	51	9	33	-8	0.89	0.33	18.51	-9.87	0	0
South West District										
Clarinda	51	6	32	-6	0.76	0.32	27.81	-2.77	0	0
Glenwood	52	5	33	-6	0.41	0.06	21.80	-5.70	0	0
Oakland	51	8	32	-4	0.58	0.29	24.03	-3.15	0	0
Red Oak	53	7	33	-6	0.69	0.27	19.62	-10.11	0	0
Sidney	51	11	34	-6	0.54	0.13	21.93	-6.79	0	0
South Central District										
Allerton	54	6	32	-7	0.86	0.37	25.64	-4.14	0	0
Beaconsfield	50	7	31	-7	0.06	-0.40	26.86	-1.71	0	0
Chariton	53	5	32	-6	1.01	0.52	22.29	-8.04	0	0
Indianola	53	5	32	-6	0.63	0.21	22.74	-5.27	0	0
Leon	53	8	33	-6	0.50	0.02	20.90	-8.67	0	0
South East District										
Bloomfield	52	11	34	-8	0.61	0.10	23.73	-6.36	0	0
Burlington	55	13	37	-4	0.73	0.17	18.38	-9.72	0	0
Ottumwa	52	7	34	-6	0.55	0.02	18.96	-8.90	0	0

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.