

Iowa Crops & Weather



USDA – National Agricultural Statistical Service
Iowa Field Office

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For the week ending May 4, 2008

WESTERN IOWA PLANTS

Agricultural Summary: Overall, Iowa farmers increased their time planting corn and oats, despite periods of rain and threats of rain. Drier conditions prevailed in the western one-third of Iowa while the central and eastern sections of the state continued to struggle with standing water in fields and cold soil temperatures. Northwest Iowa was able to plant over one-third of their expected corn acreage last week. West central Iowa planted over 30 percent and Southwest Iowa planted 20 percent of their expected corn acreage.

There were 2.7 days suitable for fieldwork, compared to 3.1 days last year at this time. Topsoil moisture rated zero percent very short, zero percent short, 50 percent adequate, and 50 percent surplus across the state. Subsoil moisture rated zero percent very short, zero percent short, 49 percent adequate, and 51 percent surplus.

Field Crops Report: Oat seeding was 51 percent complete, approximately 13 days behind last year. Oats emerged was 15 percent, behind last year's and the five-year average of 45 percent and 71 percent, respectively. Corn is 18 percent planted, behind last year's and the five-year average of 42 percent and 64 percent, respectively. Corn planting is 11 days behind the five-year average. Fertilizer application is 77 percent complete, which is 10 percentage points behind last year and 14 percentage points behind the five-year average.

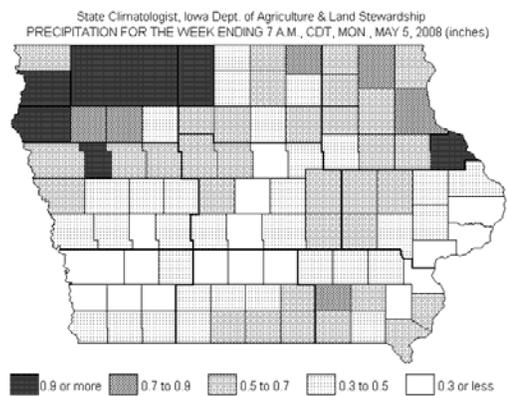
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated three percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 38 percent fair, 40 percent good, and eight percent excellent. Calving and lambing are ongoing with no major problems reported.

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	3	11	38	40	8

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by State Climatologist Harry Hillaker

The past work week began with dry and unseasonably cold weather. Daytime high temperatures on Monday (28th) were mostly in the 40's and on Tuesday (29th) in the 50's. A freeze was recorded over most of Iowa on Tuesday morning with temperatures dipping as low as 22 degrees at Mason City. After a chilly Wednesday (30th) morning temperatures warmed rapidly in western Iowa where highs reached 80 degrees at Glenwood and Shenandoah. Thursday (1st) was the warmest day of the week in most areas with highs in the mid 60's north to mid 80's southwest. Glenwood, Oakland, Red Oak and Shenandoah all reached 86 degrees on Thursday. This was the first time this year that temperatures exceeded 80 degrees in Iowa and the fourth latest time this temperature threshold had been reached in Iowa in the past 120 years. Below normal temperatures returned over the weekend with Audubon recording a low of 28 degrees on Sunday (4th) morning. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 4.9 degrees below normal. Welcome dry weather prevailed for much of the week. There was only one rain event, starting late Thursday and continuing into early Saturday. Heaviest rain fell in northwestern Iowa where 1.70 inches fell near Algona. Southern Iowa was the driest with only 0.10 inches of rain recorded at Columbus Junction. The statewide average precipitation was 0.55 inches while normal for the week is 0.88 inches. This was Iowa's driest week in five weeks. There were several tornadoes reported in Lyon and Sioux counties on Thursday evening with a few isolated reports of large hail in eastern Iowa Thursday night. Finally, soil temperatures as of Sunday (4th) were averaging in the low 50's north to mid 50's south.

PRELIMINARY IOWA PRECIPITATION Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist



Field Work and Crop Progress as of May 4, 2008

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	85	74	67	87	78	70	87	68	64	77	66	87	91	
Corn planted	43	6	3	37	14	3	26	5	4	18	3	42	64	
Oats planted	93	67	31	90	57	49	71	33	44	51	28	87	96	
Oats emerged	24	9	6	35	18	16	38	15	12	15	5	45	71	

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of May 4, 2008

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	3.8	1.8	1.7	4.0	2.5	1.6	3.7	2.1	1.7	2.7	1.3	3.1	
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Adequate	74	52	44	66	40	38	68	32	32	50	33	46	
Surplus	26	48	56	34	60	62	32	68	68	50	67	54	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Adequate	70	52	41	62	34	34	79	28	44	49	43	59	
Surplus	30	48	59	38	66	66	21	72	56	51	57	41	

Weather Summary For
National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office
For the week ending: Sunday, May 4, 2008, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

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	68	24	45	-8	1.51	0.81	5.22	1.99	14	-19
Sioux Center	76	27	51	-6	0.92	0.28	2.82	-0.03	30	-17
Spencer	69	23	46	-8	0.87	0.13	3.74	0.57	14	-24
Spirit Lake	67	27	48	-5	1.52	0.89	4.43	1.59	16	-35
North Central District										
Britt	66	26	45	-11	0.40	-0.37	5.49	2.00	8	-36
Humboldt	73	29	46	-10	0.66	-0.11	5.68	2.18	12	-28
Mason City	67	22	46	-8	0.71	-0.11	6.72	3.24	15	-22
Osage	67	26	45	-10	0.75	-0.09	7.77	3.98	7	-44
North East District										
Decorah	67	28	48	-7	1.21	0.37	9.85	5.93	15	-29
Dubuque	71	30	48	-6	1.09	0.18	7.59	3.33	23	-16
Elkader	71	30	47	-8	0.98	0.14	11.53	7.81	15	-42
Fayette	69	30	45	-10	0.62	-0.28	12.48	8.62	9	-31
Waterloo	68	25	48	-8	0.38	-0.47	11.86	8.04	23	-22
West Central District										
Carroll	80	28	48	-8	0.45	-0.43	5.43	1.58	19	-26
Castana	84	27	48	-10	0.51	-0.28	4.80	1.56	21	-23
Guthrie Center	80	25	48	-9	0.38	-0.46	5.11	1.33	18	-30
Harlan	84	29	49	-9	0.44	-0.43	5.38	1.74	24	-25
Jefferson	76	29	47	-9	0.47	-0.41	6.63	2.78	16	-29
Logan	84	29	50	-9	0.29	-0.59	5.10	1.62	25	-31
Rockwell City	75	27	46	-11	0.50	-0.30	5.17	1.86	14	-37
Sac City	76	29	47	-8	0.62	-0.18	4.10	0.74	13	-29
Sioux City	85	27	50	-7	0.74	0.04	3.93	1.15	30	-24
Central District										
Boone	75	27	48	-9	0.70	-0.19	7.33	3.45	19	-28
Des Moines	76	31	52	-6	0.24	-0.53	6.26	2.45	34	-22
Grundy Center	73	27	47	-8	0.34	-0.51	12.09	8.37	18	-19
Marshalltown	73	27	48	-7	0.33	-0.51	8.30	4.60	26	-17
Newton	76	29	49	-9	0.34	-0.52	7.54	3.76	22	-29
Perry	76	28	48	-8	0.40	-0.44	5.98	2.33	20	-25
Toledo	74	27	47	-8	0.41	-0.49	6.99	3.18	18	-22
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	74	30	49	-7	0.42	-0.35	7.41	3.77	30	-18
Davenport	73	29	50	-7	0.24	-0.53	5.23	1.53	33	-18
Iowa City	75	32	51	-8	0.40	-0.51	7.33	3.10	34	-27
Lowden	73	27	48	-8	0.32	-0.59	8.01	3.72	19	-30
Maquoketa	71	28	47	-8	0.24	-0.53	7.57	3.91	17	-23
Muscatine	75	33	50	-8	0.43	-0.41	6.49	2.50	30	-10
South West District										
Atlantic	83	28	53	-3	0.47	-0.32	6.04	2.55	39	-8
Clarinda	85	29	50	-7	0.26	-0.69	3.27	-0.71	29	-25
Glenwood	86	32	51	-7	0.34	-0.58	5.91	2.37	30	-28
Red Oak	86	33	51	-8	0.28	-0.63	4.51	0.48	31	-32
Sidney	83	31	51	-8	0.33	-0.55	4.92	1.21	28	-33
South Central District										
Allerton	75	28	49	-8	0.56	-0.29	7.30	3.46	24	-6
Beaconsfield	77	30	50	-7	0.39	-0.45	5.15	1.36	25	-24
Chariton	76	27	50	-7	0.35	-0.49	6.02	1.98	27	-22
Indianola	76	29	49	-8	0.31	-0.60	5.49	1.36	25	-26
Leon	79	30	50	-7	0.85	-0.09	5.55	1.44	30	-20
South East District										
Bloomfield	76	30	51	-8	0.56	-0.35	6.89	2.83	28	-33
Burlington	78	31	53	-5	0.71	-0.13	5.83	1.85	43	-15
Ottumwa	75	28	51	-8	0.80	-0.04	7.49	3.70	33	-25
Washington	77	32	50	-9	0.44	-0.40	7.51	3.79	29	-15

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 2008: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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