

Iowa Crops & Weather



USDA – National Agricultural Statistical Service
Iowa Field Office

210 Walnut, Room 833 • Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2195
515-284-4340 • 1-800-772-0825 • FAX 515-284-4342 • nass-ia@nass.usda.gov
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For the week ending April 19, 2009

DRIER WEATHER SUPPORTS FIELDWORK

Agricultural Summary: There were 4.9 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared to the five-year average of 3.5 days. Topsoil moisture rated 8 percent short, 78 percent adequate, and 14 percent surplus across the state. Subsoil moisture rated 3 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 18 percent surplus. Moisture surpluses diminished and shortages increased, but reporters rated soil moisture as mostly adequate. Some reporters commented that rain was needed to stimulate pasture and hay growth. Several reporters noted that conditions were nearly ideal for fieldwork. Soil tillage was the predominant field activity. Other active chores included tiling, repairing waterways, and fertilizer and chemical applications. Corn planting accelerated despite cold soil temperatures.

Field Crops Report: Oat seeding advanced to 70 percent complete, well ahead of last year's 13 percent pace, and 4 days ahead of the five-year average of 60 percent. Seeding remained active in the Northeastern district, where about one-third of the State's oat acres are grown. Oat emergence, at 3 percent, equaled last year's pace, but lagged 8 days behind the 16 percent average for this date. Reporters blamed cold soils and moisture shortages for the slow emergence. Corn planted reached 6 percent, ahead of last year when no corn was in the ground by this date, but behind the five-year average of 10 percent. Corn planting accelerated throughout the State, led by the North Central district, where 9 percent of the acreage is planted. Fertilizer applications progressed to 74 percent complete, 14 percentage points ahead of last year, and 1 percentage point ahead of the five-year average.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 3 percent very poor, 18 percent poor, 41 percent fair, 32 percent good, and 6 percent excellent. Reporters say that warmer weather is needed to stimulate pasture and hay growth. In some areas, rain was also needed to promote growth.

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist

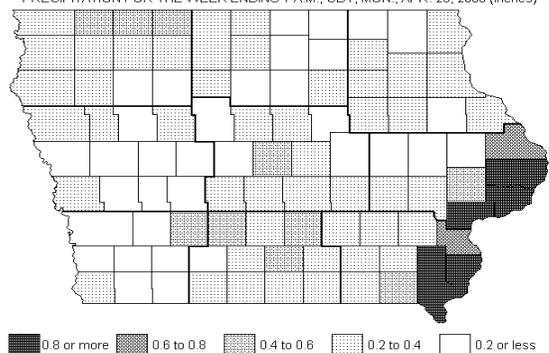
The past work week began with cool, damp weather. Highs on Monday (13th) were only in the upper 30's east to low 60's west with light rain, sometimes mixed with snow, falling over the southeast two-thirds of Iowa. Tuesday (14th) started cold with morning lows down to 20 degrees at Spencer and Estherville but afternoon highs reached the low 50's southeast to mid 60's west. Wednesday (15th) and Thursday (16th) were dry with highs mostly in the 60's. Friday (17th) was the warmest day with highs mostly in the 70's with Cresco and Eldora the warm spots at 74 degrees. Light rain fell statewide on Saturday (18th) but with a few scattered locations receiving more than one-half inch. Cooler, drier and windier weather moved into Iowa on Sunday (19th) but not before moderate rain of one-half to one inch fell over far southeastern areas. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 1.5 degrees warmer than normal. Precipitation totals varied from only 0.01 inch at Cresco to 1.92 inches at Clinton. The statewide average precipitation was 0.30 inch while normal for the week is 0.80 inch. Soil temperatures as of Sunday (19th) were averaging in the upper 40's over the northeast two-thirds of Iowa and low 50's in the southwest.

Statewide Crop Conditions as of April 19, 2009

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range & Pasture	3	18	41	32	6

PRELIMINARY IOWA PRECIPITATION

State Climatologist, Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
PRECIPITATION FOR THE WEEK ENDING 7 A.M., CDT, MON., APR. 20, 2009 (inches)



Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 19, 2009

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
	<i>Percent</i>													
Fertilizer application completed	74	77	68	80	74	77	84	59	60	74	59	60	73	
Corn planted	6	9	4	6	7	3	7	3	6	6	0	0	10	
Oats planted	49	76	82	85	75	66	61	45	54	70	35	13	60	

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 19, 2009

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	<i>Days</i>												
Days suitable	4.9	5.7	5.4	5.5	4.5	4.7	5.0	3.4	3.0	4.9	3.3	1.1	
	<i>Percent</i>												
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Short	3	17	27	9	1	11	2	1	0	8	3	0	
Adequate	93	81	68	87	79	77	92	66	57	78	76	42	
Surplus	4	2	5	4	20	12	6	33	43	14	21	58	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Short	2	7	10	2	0	2	2	0	0	3	2	0	
Adequate	89	84	84	91	67	86	87	56	62	79	75	54	
Surplus	9	8	5	7	33	12	11	44	38	18	23	46	

Weather Summary
For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office
For the week ending: Sunday, April 19, 2009, 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	73	20	50	6	0.62	-0.05	0.97	-0.74	23	14
Sioux Center	71	24	52	3	0.25	-0.31	0.76	-0.74	24	4
Spencer	72	20	51	5	0.11	-0.52	0.12	-1.50	25	11
Spirit Lake	73	30	52	8	0.52	-0.04	0.91	-0.58	28	5
North Central District										
Britt	71	30	49	2	0.30	-0.41	0.64	-1.17	12	-4
Humboldt	72	30	50	1	0.21	-0.49	0.62	-1.21	15	1
Mason City	73	25	50	4	0.08	-0.62	0.36	-1.41	18	5
Osage	72	34	51	4	0.15	-0.62	0.45	-1.53	16	-6
North East District										
Decorah	73	24	51	4	0.17	-0.67	0.27	-1.82	14	-2
Dubuque	70	28	49	2	0.29	-0.58	0.55	-1.74	19	3
Elkader	73	22	45	-4	0.51	-0.26	0.82	-1.11	2	-27
Fayette	73	29	49	2	0.42	-0.36	0.68	-1.29	18	3
Waterloo	73	29	50	3	0.20	-0.57	0.48	-1.51	17	-1
West Central District										
Carroll	71	28	49	0	0.10	-0.67	0.93	-1.05	11	-7
Castana	69	33	51	0	0.15	-0.48	0.49	-1.14	16	-1
Guthrie Center	70	26	49	-1	0.08	-0.69	1.28	-0.71	17	-5
Harlan	71	24	50	-2	0.18	-0.54	0.91	-0.93	17	-3
Jefferson	71	29	49	1	0.11	-0.66	0.38	-1.60	12	-6
Logan	71	26	51	0	0.25	-0.42	1.15	-0.55	22	-4
Rockwell City	71	29	49	-2	0.18	-0.47	0.53	-1.13	12	-10
Sac City	70	27	48	1	0.16	-0.49	0.52	-1.21	8	-7
Sioux City	71	25	52	2	0.41	-0.13	0.56	-0.82	29	5
Central District										
Boone	71	29	50	1	0.17	-0.61	1.57	-0.44	18	-1
Des Moines	73	33	54	3	0.59	-0.21	1.00	-1.08	40	14
Grundy Center	71	28	48	1	0.17	-0.59	0.94	-0.98	10	-2
Marshalltown	71	27	50	2	0.03	-0.74	0.19	-1.78	20	2
Newton	73	34	49	-1	0.51	-0.26	0.66	-1.29	19	-3
Perry	72	30	49	1	0.15	-0.59	0.81	-1.07	16	-2
Toledo	72	30	49	1	0.06	-0.71	0.40	-1.54	15	-1
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	70	31	49	0	0.29	-0.48	0.48	-1.50	18	-1
Davenport	72	30	50	-1	0.54	-0.23	0.90	-1.13	20	-3
Iowa City	71	31	50	-3	0.56	-0.32	0.77	-1.49	20	-10
Lowden	72	22	45	-5	0.52	-0.39	0.79	-1.53	3	-18
Maquoketa	72	27	47	-2	0.13	-0.64	0.27	-1.73	11	-6
Muscatine	72	35	50	-2	0.79	-0.05	1.27	-0.91	17	2
South West District										
Atlantic	71	24	52	3	0.27	-0.43	0.79	-1.03	25	6
Clarinda	69	28	49	-2	0.37	-0.42	0.77	-1.25	20	-2
Glenwood	70	27	51	-2	0.13	-0.54	0.60	-1.09	22	-6
Red Oak	70	28	51	-3	0.37	-0.46	1.09	-1.01	26	-5
Sidney	69	32	51	-2	0.29	-0.44	0.82	-1.07	21	-6
South Central District										
Allerton	70	32	49	-2	0.60	-0.17	1.14	-0.87	21	12
Beaconsfield	70	30	49	-2	0.48	-0.29	1.06	-0.94	19	-2
Chariton	70	26	48	-2	0.61	-0.23	0.93	-1.24	11	-11
Indianola	72	31	50	-2	0.61	-0.23	1.02	-1.13	19	-5
Leon	73	29	49	-2	0.66	-0.18	1.82	-0.29	17	-4
South East District										
Bloomfield	71	33	49	-5	0.45	-0.38	0.64	-1.50	19	-13
Burlington	73	34	52	1	0.89	0.05	1.23	-0.94	36	6
Ottumwa	72	30	49	-3	0.72	-0.05	0.85	-1.14	21	-7
Washington	73	28	48	-5	0.68	-0.08	1.12	-0.84	12	-5

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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 5068 SIOUX FALLS SD 57117