



Iowa Crops & Weather

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HARD FREEZE ENDS GROWING SEASON

Iowa received killing frost which ended the growing season for most of the State. Rain, snow, and cloudy days kept most farmers out of fields last week. Cold temperatures added to delays in efforts to harvest soybeans and corn. Producers are again contemplating which will cost more, running driers or yield losses due to stalk rot, lodging, and other issues associated with leaving crops in the field to dry. When dry weather returns, soybean producers may have to deal with yield losses due to shattering.

There were 2.4 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared to the five-year average of 5.3 days. Topsoil moisture rated 3 percent short, 74 percent adequate, and 23 percent surplus across the state. Subsoil moisture rated 2 percent very short, 6 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus.

Field Crops Report: Most of the corn crop is now reported beyond the dent stage. Corn reported mature or safe from frost reached 86 percent, 5 percentage points ahead of last year, but 8 days behind the five-year average. Corn harvested for grain has begun with 6 percent of the crop reported as harvested, equal to last year, but 13 days behind the five-year average. Moisture content of all corn in the field is estimated at 28 percent, 6 percentage points higher than the five-year average. Moisture content of corn being harvested is estimated at 24 percent, 5 percentage points higher than the five-year average. Corn lodging is rated 72 percent none, 21 percent light, 6 percent moderate, and 1 percent heavy. Ear droppage is rated 83 percent none, 14 percent light, 2 percent moderate, and 1 percent heavy. Corn condition was rated 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 17 percent fair, 51 percent good, and 25 percent excellent.

Nearly all soybean fields were reported beyond turning color with 97 percent dropping leaves, 4 percentage points ahead of last year, but 1 day behind the five-year average. Soybeans harvested reached 29 percent, 35 percentage points behind last year and 11 days behind the five-year average. Soybean lodging is rated at 81 percent none, 14 percent light, and 5 percent moderate. Soybeans shattering is rated 83 percent none, 12 percent light, and 5 percent moderate. Soybean condition is rated 2 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 52 percent good, and 21 percent excellent.

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 2 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 29 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. The growing season for pasture and range land has ended in many areas where temperatures dropped well below freezing for a few nights last week. Cattle producers are now waiting to move cattle onto harvested corn fields for grazing.

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist

It was a very cool and wet week across Iowa. The reporting week began with rain over northwest Iowa on Monday (5th) with daytime high temperatures ranging from the upper 40's northwest to the mid 60's south. Rain fell statewide on Tuesday (6th) with highs from the upper 40's northwest to mid 60's southeast. Wednesday (7th) was the only dry day of the week, as well as the warmest, with highs ranging from the low 60's northeast to low 70's west where Sioux City reached 73 degrees. Rain again fell statewide on Thursday (8th) with highs mostly in the 50's. Light rain persisted over the southeast one-third of Iowa on Friday (9th) morning while a hard freeze struck the northwest counties with morning lows of 24 degrees at Spencer and Sibley. One to two inches of snow accumulated over far northwestern Iowa Friday night while snow also accumulated along the Interstate 80 corridor from Council Bluffs to Des Moines on Saturday morning. Snowfall amounts ranged from about an inch near Des Moines and Indianola to as much as 6.7 inches at Underwood in western Pottawattamie County. This was Iowa's greatest snowfall for so early in the season since October 9, 1970. A hard freeze was recorded over most of Iowa on Saturday (10th) morning with Sibley reporting a low of 22 degrees. However, still lower readings were recorded over most of Iowa on Sunday (11th) morning with 15 degrees at Sibley. This was Iowa's lowest temperature for so early in the season since October 9, 2000. Daytime highs were only in the upper 30's to lower 40's statewide over the weekend. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 11.6 degrees below normal while this has been the coldest start to October since 1935. Precipitation totals for the week ranged from 0.26 inches at Jefferson to 1.29 inches at Northwood and Saint Ansgar. The statewide average precipitation was 0.61 inches while normal for the week is 0.60 inches.

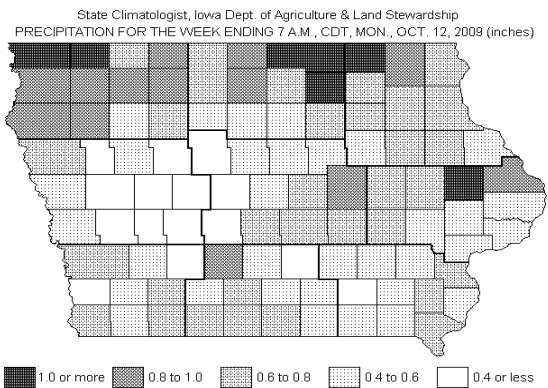
Statewide Crop Conditions as of October 11, 2009

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	2	5	17	51	25
Soybeans	2	5	20	52	21
Range & Pasture	2	11	29	46	12

Statewide Harvesting Conditions as of October 11, 2009

Item	None	Light	Moderate	Heavy
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn lodging	72	21	6	1
Corn ear droppage	83	14	2	1
Soybeans lodging	81	14	5	0
Soybeans shattering	83	12	5	0

PRELIMINARY IOWA PRECIPITATION



Field Work and Crop Progress as of October 11, 2009

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal	
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE						
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn mature (safe from frost)	87	85	70	92	93	89	88	76	83	86	71	81	95		
Corn harvested (grain or seed)	5	4	4	6	7	5	10	4	9	6	3	6	21		
Soybeans dropping leaves	100	100	92	97	100	96	92	88	94	97	90	93	98		
Soybeans harvested	47	32	12	37	37	10	22	11	16	29	20	64	74		

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of October 11, 2009

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Days</i>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Days suitable	2.0	1.8	2.3	2.2	2.7	2.9	3.0	2.5	2.2	2.4	3.2	5.1	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	2	
Short	2	4	7	0	1	0	12	5	2	3	5	13	
Adequate	69	68	81	80	63	81	74	78	69	74	73	79	
Surplus	28	28	12	20	36	19	11	17	29	23	21	6	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	4	5	2	0	0	0	5	1	0	2	2	3	
Short	11	8	7	7	3	0	12	5	2	6	8	16	
Adequate	84	78	82	82	73	91	82	76	79	81	81	75	
Surplus	1	9	9	11	24	9	1	18	19	11	9	6	

**Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office
For the week ending: Sunday, October 11, 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	67	21	41	-11	0.98	0.46	19.51	-2.01	2	-24
Sioux Center	70	20	43	-12	0.98	0.47	20.03	-0.93	6	-33
Spencer	69	19	43	-11	0.90	0.37	18.62	-3.75	5	-26
Spirit Lake	66	25	41	-11	0.38	-0.12	18.80	-2.48	1	-54
North Central District										
Britt	67	23	41	-15	0.99	0.44	26.60	3.21	0	-43
Humboldt	68	22	43	-12	0.65	0.07	25.03	1.03	1	-31
Mason City	68	20	43	-10	0.42	-0.19	20.88	-3.92	4	-29
Osage	66	22	41	-14	0.81	0.15	23.40	-2.14	0	-45
North East District										
Decorah	63	20	44	-11	0.88	0.29	25.68	1.30	3	-37
Dubuque	60	21	44	-10	0.49	-0.18	28.31	1.70	5	-33
Elkader	63	18	42	-13	0.72	0.11	26.13	2.05	0	-54
Fayette	63	22	42	-13	0.51	-0.14	31.48	6.19	0	-38
Waterloo	65	21	45	-10	0.41	-0.23	26.85	1.98	9	-28
West Central District										
Carroll	69	22	44	-11	0.33	-0.28	24.90	-0.33	4	-34
Castana	70	24	43	-14	0.40	-0.22	23.43	0.66	4	-37
Guthrie Center	68	24	44	-12	0.35	-0.30	23.99	-1.07	3	-38
Harlan	71	24	44	-12	0.36	-0.34	25.49	0.46	6	-35
Jefferson	69	23	44	-11	0.22	-0.39	23.81	-1.42	3	-35
Logan	72	25	44	-13	0.76	0.11	25.61	2.04	6	-39
Rockwell City	68	23	43	-13	0.42	-0.20	22.68	-1.73	2	-43
Sac City	68	21	43	-12	0.46	-0.16	20.36	-3.66	0	-35
Sioux City	73	22	45	-11	0.62	0.12	23.30	3.64	14	-29
Central District										
Boone	67	23	44	-12	0.29	-0.37	24.48	-1.07	3	-42
Des Moines	68	30	49	-9	0.73	0.09	23.66	-0.37	20	-34
Grundy Center	65	22	43	-11	0.55	-0.09	32.04	7.52	0	-36
Marshalltown	65	23	46	-9	0.71	0.08	25.60	-0.04	11	-28
Newton	65	27	45	-12	0.47	-0.21	28.48	3.67	3	-46
Perry	68	24	44	-11	0.14	-0.48	23.47	-0.75	4	-37
Toledo	64	24	44	-11	0.65	0.04	28.87	3.05	0	-39
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	63	24	45	-10	0.73	0.14	35.88	11.43	10	-36
Davenport	63	24	47	-11	0.39	-0.24	33.21	9.42	12	-43
Iowa City	64	28	47	-12	0.48	-0.22	27.85	1.22	12	-49
Lowden	64	21	44	-11	0.59	-0.07	36.64	9.62	0	-46
Maquoketa	62	23	44	-10	0.68	0.07	30.82	6.01	0	-39
Muscatine	64	28	47	-12	0.64	-0.04	33.60	8.50	5	-34
South West District										
Atlantic	69	25	43	-12	0.39	-0.28	28.54	4.89	3	-38
Clarinda	69	24	44	-13	0.54	-0.18	22.42	-5.20	5	-42
Glenwood	71	26	44	-13	0.02	-0.63	23.49	-1.51	5	-51
Red Oak	71	27	45	-13	0.42	-0.23	21.77	-5.41	8	-48
Sidney	71	27	46	-12	0.53	-0.19	18.21	-7.63	8	-49
South Central District										
Allerton	64	26	45	-12	0.86	0.06	35.38	8.92	8	-18
Beaconsfield	66	27	45	-12	0.83	0.09	32.08	6.60	2	-48
Chariton	65	27	44	-13	0.62	-0.15	32.32	5.19	0	-50
Indianola	66	25	44	-12	0.61	-0.10	28.23	3.20	1	-49
Leon	65	26	44	-13	0.56	-0.19	28.91	2.58	0	-51
South East District										
Bloomfield	64	30	46	-13	0.45	-0.32	36.14	9.38	1	-60
Burlington	67	30	49	-9	0.49	-0.24	33.96	9.20	21	-36
Ottumwa	64	25	47	-11	0.42	-0.25	35.81	11.07	13	-43
Washington	65	27	45	-14	0.49	-0.21	34.28	10.11	1	-40

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 2009: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

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