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In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Issued April 23, 2012 Vol 12 - 08

For the week ending April 22, 2012

Weather conditions were unfavorable for most of the State this week as Iowa experienced several cool, rainy days. Many farmers are anxious for fields to dry out enough so fieldwork and planting activities can resume.

There were 1.8 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared to 4.5 days the previous week. The days suitable for fieldwork ranged from a low of 1.1 days in North Central and Central Iowa to a high of 3.4 days in South East Iowa. Topsoil moisture levels improved to 2 percent very short, 10 percent short, 72 percent adequate, and 16 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture also improved and is now rated 10 percent very short, 24 percent short, 59 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus.

Despite the rainy weather, corn planting advanced 4 percentage points and now stands at 9 percent complete, compared with 3 percent at this time last year and the five year average of 16 percent. One percent of the corn crop has emerged, 13 days ahead of normal. Some farmers were spotted planting soybean fields but progress was less than 1 percent. Oat planting was 94 percent complete, ahead of last year's 70 percent and the five-year average of 63 percent. Fifty-seven percent of the expected oat acreage has emerged, well ahead of last year's 20 percent and the five-year average of 18 percent. Oat condition rated 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 11 percent excellent.

Sixty-nine percent of Iowa's pasture and range land is now rated good to excellent, a 6 percentage point decrease from the previous week. Pasture and range condition rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 46 percent good, and 23 percent excellent.

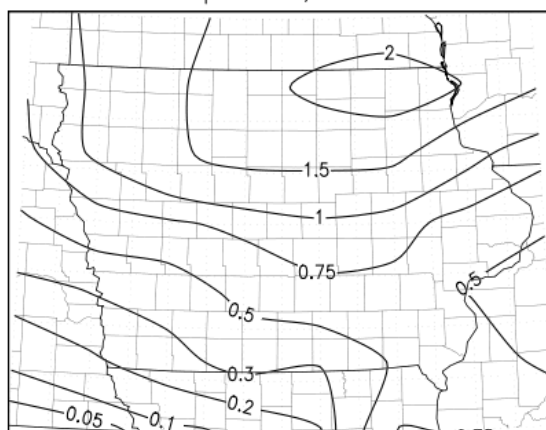
Crop Conditions as of April 22, 2012

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Range & Pasture	1	4	26	46	23
Oats.....	1	2	32	54	11

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Michael Timlin, Regional Climatologist Midwestern Regional Climate Center

The past week reported statewide temperatures that averaged nearly 2.5 degrees below normal. Temperatures ranged from about 4 degrees below normal in the north central part of the state to near normal in the southwest. Daily temperature extremes ranged from 78 degrees in Clinton on Monday (16th) and Keosauqua on Thursday (19th) to 28 degrees at several stations in north central Iowa on Tuesday (17th). Freezing temperatures were common in the northern third of the state on Tuesday (17th) and Friday (20th) with scattered freezing temperatures noted across the state on the last three days of the week (20th to 22nd). The below normal temperatures for the week were largely due to cool maximum temperatures with minimum temperatures closer to normal across the state. Normal rainfall during the week, just shy of an inch, was exceeded in the northern half of Iowa while the southern half of the state came up short of normal. Rainfall totals in the southwest were about a quarter inch and totals ramped up to around 2 inches in the northeast with a couple locations topping 3 inches (Charles City, 3.03 inches and Cresco, 3.37 inches). Monday (16th), Friday (20th), and Sunday (22nd) were mostly dry across the state while the heaviest precipitation fell on Thursday (19th) at most locations with lighter amounts on the remaining days of the week. Precipitation totals for Thursday were 1 to 2.50 inches for most locations in north central and northeast Iowa. The only reports of severe weather during the week were tornado reports in Clay County on Saturday afternoon (21st). Both reports were of weak, short-lived tornadoes with no significant damage.

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
Apr 16-22, 2012



Regional Climatologist, Midwestern Regional Climate Center

Field Work and Crop Progress as of April 22, 2012

Item	Districts										State	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr Avg
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE					
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Corn planted	9	5	6	11	7	9	12	10	26	9	5	3	16	
Oats planted	96	95	98	92	87	97	94	87	98	94	86	70	63	
Oats emerged	74	57	50	55	75	55	49	51	71	57	45	20	18	

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of April 22, 2012

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)	(Days)	(Days)	(Days)
Days suitable	1.5	1.1	1.9	2.0	1.1	2.5	2.2	1.2	3.4	1.8	4.5	1.3	
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	3	4	2	0	0	0	1	0	9	2	6	0	
Short	19	17	7	12	1	5	3	1	19	10	21	1	
Adequate	75	69	64	81	75	83	63	72	62	72	66	67	
Surplus	3	10	27	7	24	12	33	27	10	16	7	32	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	24	17	6	17	3	2	2	0	5	10	14	0	
Short	43	39	19	35	17	10	9	7	26	24	31	2	
Adequate	32	43	60	46	69	82	76	79	67	59	53	74	
Surplus	1	1	15	2	11	6	13	14	2	7	2	24	

Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office. For the week ending: 7:00 am Sunday, April 22, 2012, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

Station	Current Week						Since April 1			
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation		GDD Base 50F	
	High	Low	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total	DFN	Total	DFN
North West District										
Estherville	74	30	49	3	1.52	0.82	3.02	0.99	83	73
Sioux Center	71	30	53	3	1.05	0.48	2.18	0.42	130	75
Spencer	74	29	50	2	1.38	0.72	3.31	1.38	111	90
Spirit Lake	61	33	46	-2	0.61	0.03	3.49	1.73	70	49
North Central District										
Britt	74	32	47	-3	2.04	1.29	3.48	1.31	48	36
Dakota City	75	30	49	-3	2.11	1.37	4.16	1.98	76	43
Mason City	75	28	48	-1	1.98	1.26	3.22	1.11	71	51
Osage	73	32	48	-2	2.75	1.96	4.13	1.78	39	22
North East District										
Decorah	75	28	50	1	2.07	1.23	3.94	1.46	71	42
Dubuque	72	30	49	-1	0.68	-0.23	1.57	-1.13	57	28
Elkader	74	28	47	-4	1.73	0.96	2.59	0.31	37	7
Fayette	74	31	48	-2	1.75	0.93	2.74	0.38	47	34
Waterloo	77	30	51	1	1.85	1.05	2.93	0.56	78	47
West Central District										
Carroll	74	35	51	1	0.63	-0.18	3.07	0.70	105	75
Castana	71	34	51	-3	0.67	0.01	2.40	0.46	120	50
Guthrie Center	74	32	52	2	0.65	-0.13	3.88	1.54	122	78
Harlan	72	35	52	-1	0.57	-0.19	2.43	0.24	128	95
Jefferson	76	35	52	2	0.89	0.08	2.88	0.51	103	68
Logan	73	36	53	1	0.40	-0.32	2.61	0.57	132	76
Rockwell City	75	35	50	-2	1.17	0.48	4.82	2.84	92	66
Sac City	73	31	49	-2	1.30	0.61	3.20	1.16	90	70
Sioux City	75	34	53	1	0.73	0.17	4.34	2.71	153	103
Central District										
Boone	75	33	51	1	1.00	0.18	3.67	1.28	87	46
Des Moines	76	35	56	3	0.63	-0.21	5.18	2.72	162	98
Grundy Center	76	32	49	1	1.93	1.16	3.63	1.36	65	46
Marshalltown	76	31	52	2	0.86	0.09	2.92	0.61	98	68
Newton	75	34	52	0	0.63	-0.16	2.69	0.37	96	48
Perry	76	34	52	3	0.75	-0.02	3.40	1.17	100	67
Toledo	75	31	49	-1	0.86	0.07	3.81	1.50	68	43
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	73	31	51	1	0.95	0.18	2.50	0.18	82	41
Davenport	73	33	53	2	0.43	-0.34	3.28	0.91	106	42
Iowa City	74	34	53	-1	0.92	0.01	3.33	0.66	106	23
Lowden	75	30	50	-1	0.78	-0.13	4.10	1.37	66	35
Maquoketa	71	31	49	-3	0.53	-0.24	2.22	-0.12	48	21
Muscatine	73	32	53	-1	0.45	-0.39	2.11	-0.44	90	15
South West District										
Atlantic	73	33	53	3	0.16	-0.56	3.15	1.00	125	74
Clarinda	76	34	55	4	0.23	-0.60	4.19	1.79	143	92
Glenwood	72	37	54	2	0.08	-0.65	3.00	0.96	141	70
Red Oak	75	37	55	2	0.26	-0.58	7.00	4.52	147	92
Sidney	74	39	55	2	0.09	-0.68	3.71	1.47	150	79
South Central District										
Allerton	73	34	52	0	0.22	-0.59	2.20	-0.19	112	56
Beaconsfield	74	38	54	3	0.51	-0.27	3.10	0.75	121	79
Chariton	73	33	53	2	0.53	-0.31	4.30	1.75	112	76
Indianola	73	32	52	0	0.62	-0.26	3.35	0.78	118	78
Leon	74	30	52	2	0.28	-0.59	2.64	0.12	120	76
South East District										
Bloomfield	75	35	53	-2	0.38	-0.46	1.52	-1.00	113	55
Burlington	75	32	55	3	0.70	-0.14	1.48	-1.06	154	66
Ottumwa	75	32	54	1	0.82	0.03	3.20	0.85	128	50
Washington	75	31	52	-3	0.49	-0.28	2.59	0.29	111	39

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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