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In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Issued May 7, 2012 Vol 12 - 10

For the week ending May 6, 2012

Iowa's planting progress was slowed by persistent rain and thunderstorms that swept through the state. Farmers are looking forward to a stretch of clear weather to help dry out the fields so planting activities can resume.

There were 1.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared to 4.3 days the previous week. The days suitable for fieldwork ranged from a low of .8 days in South Central and Southeast Iowa to a high of only 2.3 days in Northwest Iowa. Topsoil moisture levels increased to 0 percent very short, 3 percent short, 68 percent adequate, and 29 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture also increased and is now rated 6 percent very short, 13 percent short, 66 percent adequate, and 15 percent surplus.

Even with limited opportunities, farmers managed to advance corn planting 14 percentage points. Corn planting now stands at 64 percent complete, ahead of last year's 52 percent and the five-year average of 58 percent. Northwest Iowa producers lead the way for corn planting with 76 percent complete. Twenty-three percent of the corn crop has emerged, 4 days ahead of normal. Soybean planting was 7 percent complete, equal to last year but behind the five-year average of 11 percent. Southeast and Southwest Iowa are the most advanced with 14 percent of their soybeans planted. Oat planting was nearly complete. Ninety percent of the expected oat acreage has emerged, ahead of last year's 64 percent and the five-year average of 57 percent. Oats have begun heading in some areas of the state. Oat condition improved to 0 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 63 percent good, and 15 percent excellent.

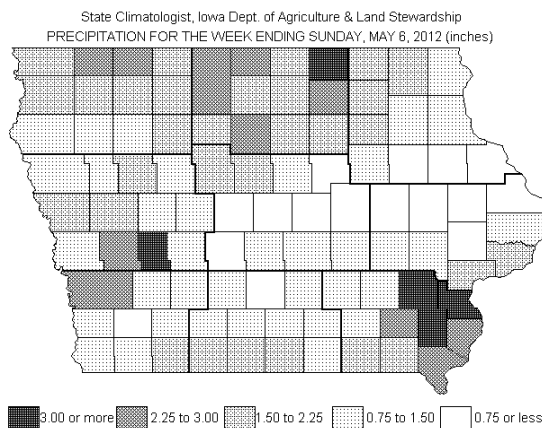
Seventy-three percent of Iowa's pasture and range land is now rated good to excellent, a 5 percentage point increase from the previous week. Pasture and range condition rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 49 percent good, and 24 percent excellent.

Crop Conditions as of May 6, 2012

Item	Very Poor (Percent)	Poor (Percent)	Fair (Percent)	Good (Percent)	Excellent (Percent)
Oats	0	2	20	63	15
Pasture & Range	1	4	22	49	24

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

The past reporting week began on the cool side with widespread rain on Monday (30th). Much warmer weather prevailed for the rest of the week with frequent thunderstorms. Temperature extremes varied from a Monday (30th) morning low of 35 degrees at Elkader to Saturday (5th) afternoon highs of 93 degrees at Little Sioux and Sioux City. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged from 7 degrees warmer than normal over the far east to 14 degrees above normal in the far west. The statewide average temperature was 10.3 degrees above normal. Rain fell frequently throughout the week with few locations managing more than two consecutive dry days. Rain totals varied from 0.43 inches at the Dubuque Airport to 5.39 inches at the Washington Airport. The statewide average precipitation was 1.51 inches while normal for the week is 0.98 inches. Severe thunderstorms occurred every day at some location within the state except on Monday. The most widespread severe weather came on Friday afternoon and evening across the northern one-third of the state with numerous reports of large hail, high winds and tornadoes. Finally, soil temperatures as of Sunday (6th) had warmed to the mid to upper 60s statewide.



Field Work and Crop Progress as of May 6, 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	76	59	50	74	63	53	69	50	72	64	50	52	58	
Corn emerged	23	9	8	36	26	14	31	33	44	23	5	1	11	
Soybeans planted	8	1	4	6	7	7	14	9	14	7	3	7	11	
Oats emerged	97	94	85	96	98	90	96	91	83	90	78	64	57	

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of May 6, 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	2.3	1.5	1.3	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.2	0.8	0.8	1.5	4.3	4.9	
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Short	12	9	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	7	5	
Adequate	78	65	65	77	67	59	72	62	54	68	76	81	
Surplus	9	24	33	22	32	41	28	38	45	29	16	14	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short	23	10	2	8	0	1	0	0	0	6	7	0	
Short	29	20	10	22	6	6	3	3	11	13	21	2	
Adequate	44	63	70	57	75	72	79	77	72	66	65	81	
Surplus	4	7	18	13	19	21	18	20	17	15	7	17	

Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office.
For the week ending: 7:00 am Sunday, May 6, 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	84	46	64	12	2.11	1.41	5.53	2.10	231	157
Sioux Center	92	44	67	12	1.84	1.18	4.67	1.62	315	158
Spencer	86	47	66	12	1.49	0.73	5.33	1.94	273	177
Spirit Lake	81	45	66	13	2.32	1.69	6.04	3.02	223	127
North Central District										
Britt	81	37	62	7	2.16	1.39	6.11	2.40	169	90
Dakota City	84	43	64	8	2.22	1.45	6.94	3.22	224	105
Mason City	82	45	63	10	2.07	1.23	5.67	1.95	200	108
Osage	82	41	61	7	3.55	2.71	8.05	4.02	143	59
North East District										
Decorah	83	41	63	8	2.80	1.96	7.05	2.89	189	82
Dubuque	81	42	62	8	0.64	-0.27	2.72	-1.80	158	54
Elkader	83	35	59	5	1.18	0.34	4.18	0.22	122	18
Fayette	84	41	61	7	1.78	0.87	5.08	0.96	148	77
Waterloo	85	46	64	9	1.21	0.34	4.65	0.57	211	100
West Central District										
Carroll	87	44	65	10	1.82	0.92	5.26	1.15	265	155
Castana	89	44	66	9	1.42	0.61	4.28	0.80	286	110
Guthrie Center	89	46	66	10	3.01	2.16	7.58	3.55	287	155
Harlan	90	44	66	9	2.67	1.78	5.56	1.66	300	187
Jefferson	87	45	65	10	1.45	0.55	4.63	0.52	262	143
Logan	90	43	67	10	1.82	0.91	4.88	1.13	311	159
Rockwell City	85	44	65	9	1.55	0.73	7.00	3.45	247	142
Sac City	85	43	64	10	1.52	0.70	4.92	1.32	238	147
Sioux City	93	45	69	13	0.99	0.26	5.81	2.81	358	212
Central District										
Boone	84	44	64	9	1.10	0.19	5.32	1.18	241	114
Des Moines	87	49	68	11	0.92	0.15	6.65	2.62	357	191
Grundy Center	85	46	64	10	0.74	-0.13	4.72	0.74	200	113
Marshalltown	84	47	65	10	0.70	-0.14	4.09	0.15	253	143
Newton	85	43	64	8	1.50	0.62	4.62	0.58	243	96
Perry	88	44	65	10	1.50	0.65	5.45	1.55	260	145
Toledo	84	42	62	8	0.64	-0.27	4.89	0.82	189	91
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	83	45	63	8	1.19	0.42	4.43	0.57	209	76
Davenport	82	42	63	7	2.36	1.59	6.49	2.57	231	64
Iowa City	85	44	64	6	2.89	1.98	6.95	2.46	245	45
Lowden	83	41	62	7	1.27	0.36	5.49	0.94	176	65
Maquoketa	82	39	60	5	1.02	0.25	3.79	-0.09	142	42
Muscatine	83	43	63	5	2.27	1.43	4.86	0.63	213	24
South West District										
Atlantic	88	46	67	11	2.16	1.35	5.63	1.90	297	154
Clarinda	86	47	67	10	1.35	0.38	5.78	1.52	322	181
Glenwood	90	47	67	10	1.43	0.48	4.83	1.01	321	144
Red Oak	87	46	67	9	1.11	0.20	8.35	4.06	335	180
Sidney	89	47	67	9	0.84	-0.06	4.98	1.01	341	160
South Central District										
Allerton	85	44	65	8	2.27	1.40	4.79	0.69	262	114
Beaconsfield	84	44	64	8	1.59	0.75	5.02	0.99	272	145
Chariton	85	44	65	9	2.23	1.39	6.61	2.33	260	144
Indianola	88	45	65	8	0.71	-0.20	4.59	0.20	273	149
Leon	86	45	65	9	2.60	1.64	5.59	1.20	281	153
South East District										
Bloomfield	86	45	65	7	2.99	2.08	4.91	0.59	274	118
Burlington	84	47	66	8	3.53	2.69	5.41	1.19	315	109
Ottumwa	84	47	65	8	1.87	1.02	5.32	1.28	278	86
Washington	83	44	63	5	5.38	4.54	8.90	4.94	241	63

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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