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In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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For the week ending May 27, 2012

Although recent weeks of dry weather allowed rapid planting, a lack of significant rainfall in some areas has resulted in poor soybean stands with seeds lying in dry soil. Persistent high winds through the week slowed spraying and dried out soils.

There were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork during the week, compared with 6.6 days the previous week. Rainfall amounts in Northwest Iowa ranged from 1 to 4 inches for the week, leaving only 3.4 days suitable for fieldwork while farmers in the rest of the State were able to work in their fields at least 5.0 days. Topsoil moisture levels rated 15 percent very short, 36 percent short, 47 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. South central Iowa is the driest with 83 percent of the topsoil moisture rated short to very short while northwest Iowa has only 9 percent rated short to very short. Subsoil moisture rated 10 percent very short, 32 percent short, 56 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

Ninety-five percent of the corn crop has emerged, 11 days ahead of normal. Corn condition has decreased slightly to 1 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 59 percent good, and 18 percent excellent. Soybean planting stands at 97 percent complete, ahead of last year's 84 percent and the five-year average of 83 percent. Sixty-six percent of the expected soybean acreage has emerged, ahead of last year's 43 percent and the five-year average of 40 percent. Thirty-five percent of the oat crop has headed, over 2 weeks ahead of normal. Oat condition decreased slightly to 0 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 24 percent fair, 61 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. Weather conditions have been near optimal for cutting alfalfa hay with 72 percent of the first cutting complete, compared to just 4 percent last year and the five-year average of 12 percent. Hay condition is rated 1 percent very poor, 5 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 57 percent good, and 12 percent excellent.

Fifty-seven percent of Iowa's pasture and range land is now rated good to excellent, an 11 percentage point decrease from the previous week. Pasture and range condition rated 2 percent very poor, 8 percent poor,

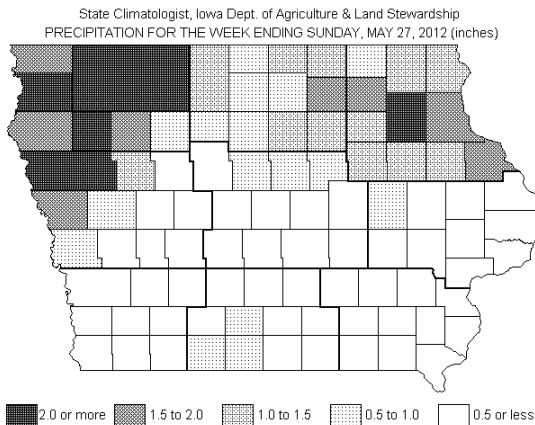
33 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. Livestock conditions have been generally good with some reports of heat stress over the weekend, increasing insects, and coughing.

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

The past reporting week began with dry weather on Monday (21st) and Tuesday (22nd) with thunderstorms bringing rain to the northwest one-quarter of the state on Wednesday (23rd) night where one to two inches fell. Rain was scattered over much of Iowa on Thursday (24th) and Friday (25th); however, amounts were mostly light except for a small portion of northeast Iowa where one to two inches of rain fell. Some rain persisted into Saturday (26th) morning over the northeast. Sunday (27th) was dry until thunderstorms moved into the far northwest late however this last rain event came too late to be reflected in this week's report. This week's rain was very welcome; however amounts were on the light side over most of the southern two-thirds of Iowa where additional rain is needed to moisten parched topsoil. Weekly rain totals varied from just sprinkles at Wapello, Washington, Mount Pleasant and Keokuk to 3.46 inches at Clermont in Fayette County and 3.09 inches in south central Woodbury County. The statewide average precipitation was 0.76 inch while normal for the week is 1.05 inches. Temperatures began on the low side with highs mostly in the 70's on Monday with Elkader starting the day with a morning low of 37 degrees. Highs were mostly in the 80's on Tuesday and Wednesday with a few low 90's. A cool front split the state on Thursday and Friday with highs in the mid 60s northwest to the mid 80's southeast. Hot weather returned for the weekend with highs in the 90's south on Saturday and over most of Iowa on Sunday. Bloomfield reached 94 degrees on Saturday while Jefferson reported 96 degrees on Sunday. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 5.9 degrees above normal.

Crop Conditions as of May 27, 2012

Item	Very Poor (Percent)	Poor (Percent)	Fair (Percent)	Good (Percent)	Excellent (Percent)
Corn	1	3	19	59	18
Oats	0	3	24	61	12
Hay, all	1	5	25	57	12
Pasture & Range	2	8	33	44	13



Field Work and Crop Progress as of May 27, 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)
Corn emerged	99	97	87	99	95	95	92	93	95	95	81	85	81
Soybeans planted	99	98	94	98	95	96	94	96	96	97	85	84	83
Soybeans emerged	78	64	55	71	67	54	60	65	65	66	26	43	40
Oats headed	41	22	25	29	43	33	45	37	55	35	20	2	3
Hay, alfalfa - 1st cutting	58	52	78	79	80	76	70	70	64	72	NA	4	12

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of May 27, 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 suitable	3.4	5.0	5.2	5.5	5.9	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.9	5.5	6.6	2.6
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	1	1	3	15	17	13	31	36	30	15	7	0
Short	8	23	36	53	38	53	40	47	42	36	37	0
Adequate	76	74	60	32	44	34	29	17	28	47	55	71
Surplus	15	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	29
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	11	11	3	16	6	3	22	12	13	10	6	0
Short	22	27	26	36	30	45	30	44	36	32	24	1
Adequate	65	60	71	47	60	49	46	43	50	56	67	75
Surplus	2	2	0	1	4	3	2	1	1	2	3	24

Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office. For the week ending: 7:00 am Sunday, May 27, 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	92	47	66	5	2.06	1.25	8.26	2.57	527	248	
Sioux Center	89	46	68	4	1.82	0.95	7.43	2.02	658	229	
Spencer	91	45	66	4	2.62	1.78	9.57	3.73	577	258	
Spirit Lake	86	46	67	7	2.54	1.75	9.89	4.73	527	210	
North Central District											
Britt	89	44	65	2	0.91	0.06	7.41	1.28	447	154	
Dakota City	89	42	65	1	0.50	-0.41	7.84	1.57	517	153	
Mason City	89	41	67	5	0.55	-0.43	6.42	-0.10	493	186	
Osage	86	43	65	4	1.27	0.36	9.47	2.79	422	135	
North East District											
Decorah	90	42	67	5	1.00	0.09	8.06	1.31	496	164	
Dubuque	90	46	67	6	1.99	1.01	4.92	-2.53	452	134	
Elkader	86	37	64	2	1.85	0.94	6.14	-0.51	347	32	
Fayette	86	44	65	3	3.07	2.09	8.62	1.66	426	168	
Waterloo	87	41	68	5	1.28	0.31	6.15	-0.72	551	204	
West Central District											
Carroll	91	43	66	3	0.09	-0.96	5.86	-1.21	561	213	
Castana	90	49	65	2	1.96	0.93	8.32	1.94	581	135	
Guthrie Center	91	39	68	5	0.17	-0.86	8.33	1.39	602	231	
Harlan	91	43	66	3	0.07	-0.98	5.97	-0.92	603	259	
Jefferson	92	44	67	4	0.08	-0.97	5.25	-1.82	579	221	
Logan	92	43	67	3	0.30	-0.75	5.98	-0.86	623	218	
Rockwell City	89	46	66	2	0.34	-0.64	7.82	1.47	544	208	
Sac City	90	45	64	2	0.86	-0.17	6.13	-0.37	517	213	
Sioux City	90	44	68	4	2.57	1.66	9.45	3.90	691	291	
Central District											
Boone	87	41	66	3	0.37	-0.72	6.25	-0.93	533	170	
Des Moines	91	49	71	6	0.59	-0.29	8.47	1.96	753	318	
Grundy Center	87	44	67	6	0.64	-0.34	5.57	-1.26	518	215	
Marshalltown	89	42	69	7	0.06	-0.91	4.25	-2.42	607	262	
Newton	91	46	67	3	0.42	-0.58	5.22	-1.71	565	145	
Perry	88	42	66	3	0.59	-0.44	7.51	0.70	566	214	
Toledo	89	42	65	3	0.46	-0.59	5.35	-1.76	471	160	
East Central District											
Cedar Rapids	89	46	69	5	0.28	-0.62	4.75	-1.64	548	161	
Davenport	92	48	71	7	0.03	-0.85	8.24	1.81	592	149	
Iowa City	91	47	70	5	0.11	-0.80	7.12	-0.09	604	103	
Lowden	90	43	68	5	0.19	-0.79	5.86	-1.52	499	156	
Maquoketa	91	45	66	5	0.20	-0.73	4.07	-2.41	426	105	
Muscatine	89	47	68	4	0.36	-0.55	7.13	0.23	551	75	
South West District											
Atlantic	89	39	66	3	0.02	-0.89	6.14	-0.24	597	204	
Clarinda	91	39	68	4	0.14	-0.97	6.28	-1.18	652	266	
Glenwood	92	42	67	3	0.00	-1.12	5.34	-1.75	635	184	
Red Oak	91	43	69	4	0.08	-1.00	9.03	1.67	686	265	
Sidney	92	44	69	3	0.01	-0.97	5.23	-1.64	699	236	
South Central District											
Allerton	90	46	67	3	0.30	-0.67	6.63	-0.26	569	174	
Beaconsfield	89	47	67	4	0.59	-0.34	6.11	-0.63	584	222	
Chariton	90	45	67	5	0.47	-0.49	7.82	0.79	582	244	
Indianola	90	41	67	3	0.34	-0.64	5.78	-1.41	598	246	
Leon	88	41	66	2	0.29	-0.76	6.76	-0.68	561	204	
South East District											
Bloomfield	94	47	68	4	0.04	-0.94	5.97	-1.24	605	189	
Burlington	91	47	71	7	0.03	-0.85	6.69	-0.09	687	191	
Ottumwa	92	43	70	5	0.08	-0.83	6.09	-0.68	636	157	
Washington	91	46	69	3	0.00	-0.91	9.06	2.39	581	135	

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 2012: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Coming soon – NASS’s annual June surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of June, NASS will survey about 140,000 U.S. producers and visit 42,000 tracts of farm land to collect information. Responses to these surveys provide the foundation for estimates in the upcoming growing year and will first be released in the *Acreage* and other reports on June 29. Watch for the survey and be sure to respond. Your information matters!