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In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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For the week ending September 16, 2012

Mostly dry conditions coupled with cooler temperatures during the week aided harvest of Iowa's crops, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office. There have been a few reports of farmers completing corn harvest and moving to soybean harvest. One reporter mentioned "This is the earliest harvest I have observed in my career." The week's activities included row crop harvesting, fall tillage, haying CRP acres, and hauling water for livestock.

There were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork statewide during the past week. Topsoil moisture level is rated at 42 percent very short, 42 percent short, 16 percent adequate, and 0 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture is rated at 59 percent very short, 34 percent short, 7 percent adequate, and 0 percent surplus.

Eighty-eight percent of the corn crop is now mature, well ahead of last year's 52 percent and the five year average of 44 percent. Twenty-two percent of the corn crop has been harvested for grain or seed, over three weeks ahead of normal. In fact, corn harvest is more advanced than it has been on September 16<sup>th</sup> since the NASS Iowa Field Office began keeping records. Moisture content of all corn in the field is estimated at 23 percent while the moisture content of corn being harvested is estimated at 19 percent. Corn lodging is rated at 60 percent none, 22 percent light, 13 percent moderate, and 5 percent heavy. Ear droppage is rated at 68 percent none, 22 percent light, 9 percent moderate, and 1 percent heavy. Corn condition improved slightly and is now rated at 20 percent very poor, 28 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 17 percent good, and 1 percent excellent. Ninety percent of the soybean crop is turning color, ahead of last year's 67 percent and the five year average of 75 percent. Fifty-four percent of Iowa's soybean fields are dropping leaves, a 28 percentage point increase from last week. Six percent of the state's soybean crop has been harvested with northwest Iowa leading the way with 12 percent. Soybean condition

improved slightly and is now rated at 12 percent very poor, 22 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 25 percent good, and 2 percent excellent.

Twenty-seven of Iowa's pasture and range land is rated in fair or better condition, a four percentage point increase from last week. Pasture and range condition is rated at 48 percent very poor, 25 percent poor, 22 percent fair, 5 percent good, and 0 percent excellent. Livestock conditions for the week were excellent. Some livestock producers are moving cattle to stalk fields.

## IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist  
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship

Temperatures over the past week averaged from four degrees warmer than normal over far northwest Iowa to five degrees below normal over the far southeast portion of the state. Tuesday (11<sup>th</sup>) was the warmest day in most areas with afternoon highs varying from the mid 80s east to the upper 90s west. Meanwhile afternoon highs on Thursday (13<sup>th</sup>) were only in the mid 50s southeast to upper 70s northwest while lows dropped into the 40s over most of Iowa by Friday morning. Temperature extremes varied from Thursday morning lows of 38 degrees at Belle Plaine and Stanley to Tuesday afternoon highs of 98 degrees at Little Sioux and Sioux City (setting a record high for the date). Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 0.2 degrees below normal. There was only one rain event during the week. Rain moved into western Iowa early on Wednesday and exited the southeast by Thursday evening. Rain fall of an inch or more fell over much of west central and southwest Iowa but amounts of an under one-quarter inch were the rule over southeastern parts of the state. Rain totals varied from 0.07 inches at the Dubuque Airport to 2.20 inches at Glenwood. The statewide average precipitation was 0.58 inches while normal for the week is 0.80 inches. This was the 17<sup>th</sup> week of the past 19 to bring less than normal precipitation to the state.

### Crop Conditions as of September 16, 2012

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Corn .....	20	28	34	17	1
Soybeans .....	12	22	39	25	2
Pasture & Range .....	48	25	22	5	0

### Harvesting Conditions as of September 16, 2012

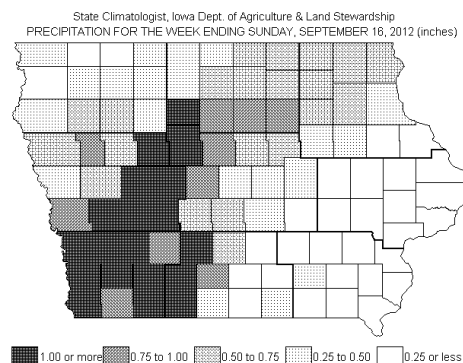
Item	None	Light	Moderate	Heavy
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Corn lodging .....	60	22	13	5
Corn ear droppage .....	68	22	9	1

### Field Work and Crop Progress as of September 16, 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 mature (safe from frost) .....	93	88	83	84	95	88	91	78	81	88	72	52	44	
Corn harvested (grain or seed) .....	30	23	14	31	20	10	26	18	25	22	10	3	2	
Soybean leaves turning color .....	94	95	94	94	95	88	87	73	72	90	77	67	75	
Soybeans dropping leaves .....	71	74	59	56	59	44	37	22	31	54	26	20	35	
Soybeans harvested .....	12	8	6	8	4	1	2	1	5	6	0	0	1	

### Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of September 16, 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 .....	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.4	6.0	6.2	5.5	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.1	5.9	
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	
Topsoil moisture													
Very short .....	40	65	47	36	32	19	45	55	41	42	48	13	
Short .....	40	33	41	48	48	41	41	41	40	42	36	32	
Adequate .....	20	2	12	16	20	40	13	4	19	16	16	52	
Surplus .....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	
Subsoil moisture													
Very short .....	51	69	60	64	47	56	66	75	47	59	63	12	
Short .....	35	27	35	27	47	35	31	25	44	34	30	35	
Adequate .....	14	4	5	8	6	9	3	0	9	7	7	52	
Surplus .....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	



**Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office. For the week ending: 7:00 am Sunday, September 16, 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 .....	94	47	66	6	0.21	-0.60	14.63	-4.63	2,979	654
Sioux Center .....	97	44	69	6	0.22	-0.48	14.60	-4.25	3,401	605
Spencer .....	94	47	67	6	0.32	-0.46	19.34	-0.79	3,162	662
Spirit Lake .....	94	47	68	8	0.26	-0.51	17.06	-2.06	3,072	604
North Central District										
Britt .....	90	46	63	-1	0.52	-0.34	16.07	-4.87	2,864	482
Dakota City .....	92	46	65	3	1.26	0.42	15.80	-5.74	3,109	519
Mason City .....	94	41	65	4	0.61	-0.30	12.26	-9.92	2,969	526
Osage .....	90	46	63	2	0.53	-0.45	16.36	-6.38	2,855	515
North East District										
Decorah .....	89	44	65	3	0.78	-0.16	16.46	-5.32	3,084	572
Dubuque .....	85	43	62	-1	0.07	-1.07	12.53	-11.02	2,918	464
Elkader .....	84	39	60	-3	0.35	-0.51	17.25	-4.33	2,563	140
Fayette .....	87	45	63	1	0.49	-0.41	16.44	-6.21	2,836	607
Waterloo .....	90	45	64	3	0.49	-0.35	13.48	-8.79	3,186	556
West Central District										
Carroll .....	91	48	65	3	1.45	0.61	16.99	-5.70	3,189	498
Castana .....	93	49	66	3	0.40	-0.44	16.51	-3.69	3,242	312
Guthrie Center .....	92	41	63	-1	1.40	0.49	15.87	-6.52	3,210	465
Harlan .....	91	45	63	-2	1.85	0.70	16.88	-4.94	3,149	511
Jefferson .....	91	45	63	1	1.51	0.67	13.86	-8.83	3,119	411
Logan .....	95	43	64	-1	0.86	-0.05	15.24	-5.68	3,316	454
Rockwell City .....	92	45	63	-2	1.00	0.09	16.23	-5.54	3,093	462
Sac City .....	91	45	63	2	0.65	-0.26	16.63	-4.74	2,966	466
Sioux City .....	98	45	68	5	0.38	-0.32	16.12	-1.47	3,463	689
Central District										
Boone .....	91	45	64	0	0.89	0.04	16.53	-6.38	3,096	410
Des Moines .....	94	50	68	3	0.72	-0.12	15.52	-5.96	3,847	874
Grundy Center .....	91	45	64	3	0.45	-0.34	14.37	-7.63	3,023	528
Marshalltown .....	91	45	64	2	0.36	-0.52	9.58	-13.49	3,238	606
Newton .....	91	45	63	-2	0.25	-0.73	13.18	-8.78	3,192	274
Perry .....	91	45	64	1	0.93	0.13	17.67	-4.10	3,194	544
Toledo .....	90	45	63	0	0.39	-0.49	13.54	-9.76	2,941	448
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids .....	85	41	61	-3	0.10	-0.85	13.64	-8.18	3,121	369
Davenport .....	86	43	64	-3	0.14	-0.65	19.54	-1.80	3,227	170
Iowa City .....	87	46	63	-4	0.21	-0.71	16.49	-7.31	3,409	251
Lowden .....	89	41	61	-3	0.19	-0.85	15.95	-8.18	3,023	452
Maquoketa .....	87	42	61	-3	0.12	-0.89	12.84	-9.22	2,797	265
Muscatine .....	87	44	64	-3	0.17	-0.74	20.76	-1.52	3,172	142
South West District										
Atlantic .....	90	40	63	-1	1.14	0.13	14.37	-6.34	3,217	449
Clarinda .....	89	41	61	-5	1.04	-0.01	20.89	-3.66	3,295	522
Glenwood .....	92	43	63	-3	2.20	1.29	14.18	-8.10	3,348	318
Red Oak .....	90	44	63	-4	1.00	-0.06	24.63	0.39	3,475	584
Sidney .....	92	48	65	-2	1.08	0.11	13.62	-9.32	3,555	497
South Central District										
Allerton .....	89	45	63	-3	0.21	-0.91	16.82	-6.33	3,280	480
Beaconsfield .....	89	48	63	-2	0.70	-0.35	16.52	-5.87	3,255	480
Chariton .....	90	44	63	-2	0.55	-0.67	19.29	-4.38	3,312	632
Indianola .....	93	42	64	1	0.65	-0.26	10.71	-11.48	3,313	655
Leon .....	89	39	61	-5	0.25	-0.76	17.94	-5.35	3,133	441
South East District										
Bloomfield .....	89	44	63	-4	0.23	-0.89	13.22	-10.31	3,400	501
Burlington .....	87	45	63	-3	0.12	-0.86	14.92	-6.81	3,488	389
Ottumwa .....	91	43	64	-3	0.28	-0.77	14.83	-6.95	3,381	293
Washington .....	89	44	63	-5	0.20	-0.78	20.39	-0.85	3,236	281

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.