



Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the month of February, 2015
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February brought cold temperatures averaging 6 to 15 degrees below normal according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Little if any commercial fertilizer has been spread, but there have been scattered reports of manure and ethanol by-products being spread. Average snow depth for Iowa was 3 inches.

As February came to a close, topsoil moisture levels rated 1 percent very short, 9 percent short, 85 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Central Iowa reported the highest moisture levels with 98 percent in adequate to surplus.

The State saw a slight slowdown in grain movement from January, with February grain movement rated 31 percent none, 43 percent light, 24 percent moderate, and 2 percent heavy. Cold weather and disappointment in spot prices were cited as reasons for light grain movement.

Availability of hay and roughage supplies was 1 percent very short, 9 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 10 percent surplus. Cold and dry weather resulted in some cattle operations having to feed more hay than usual. Despite cold temperatures, livestock conditions were described as near normal for the month of February. Calving and lambing were reported across much of the State with a few areas reporting losses due to extremely cold temperatures.

Post-Harvest Conditions as of February 28, 2015

Item	None (percent)	Light (percent)	Moderate (percent)	Heavy (percent)
Grain movement....	31	43	24	2

Hay/Roughage Supplies as of February 28, 2015

Item	Very Short (percent)	Short (percent)	Adequate (percent)	Surplus (percent)
Hay/Roughage.....	1	9	80	10

Average Snow Depth for the Month of February

Item	Districts									State	Last Month	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
Snow depth	(Inches) 2.0	(Inches) 4.0	(Inches) 6.0	(Inches) 2.0	(Inches) 4.0	(Inches) 6.0	(Inches) 1.0	(Inches) 1.0	(Inches) 4.0	(Inches) 3.0	(Inches) 3.0	(Inches) 6.0

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

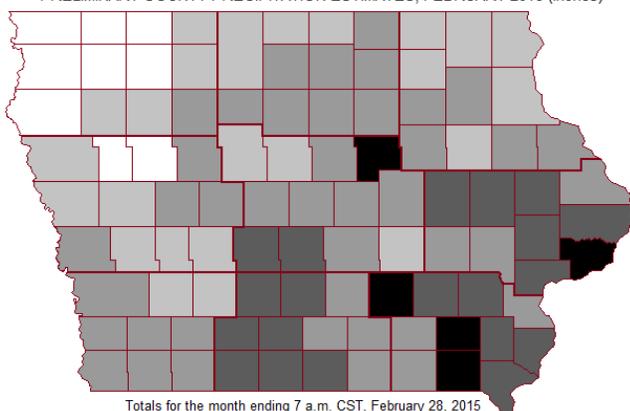
General Summary. Iowa temperatures averaged 14.0° or 10.0° below normal while precipitation totaled 1.14 inches or 0.09 inches above normal. This ranks as the 10th coldest and 62nd wettest February among 143 years of records.

Temperatures. Cold weather was the rule for most of the month as temperatures averaged above normal only for the five days from the 6th through the 10th. The second one-half of the month was particularly cold as 7 of the final 11 days of February averaged more than twenty degrees below normal. The first very cold air mass of the month settled in on the morning of the 5th when temperatures fell to -25° at Elkader with valley bottom temperatures falling to -23° as far south as Centerville. The winter's lowest temperatures occurred on the last two days of the month with Stanley recording -30° on the morning of the 27th and Elkader also falling to -30° the next morning. These were both nationwide lows (lower 48 states) on both dates. Overall, temperatures fell to zero or lower on 18 days during the month. Wind chill readings fell into the minus 30s on five days during the month with Clarion reporting the lowest wind chill at -38° on the morning of the 27th. On the other extreme temperatures climbed to 51° at Keokuk on the 7th, Glenwood and Shenandoah on the 8th and at Clarinda and Shenandoah on the 25th. Temperatures for the month as a whole averaged about six degrees below normal along the western border of Iowa to about 13 degrees subnormal along the Illinois and Wisconsin borders.

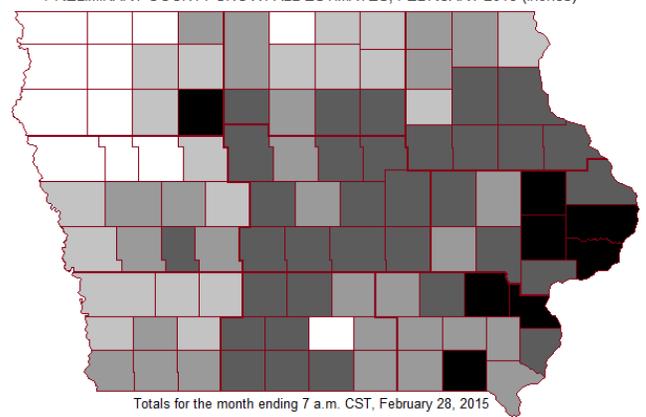
Heating Degree Day Totals. Home heating requirements, as estimated by heating degree day totals, averaged 3% less than last February (which was 1.5° colder than this February) but was 24% greater than normal. Heating degree day totals so far this season (since July 1) are running 8% less than last season at this time, but 4% more than normal.

Precipitation. The bulk of the month's precipitation fell as snow and came in two events. The largest event began on January 31 and continued into the evening of February 1. Snow fell statewide with greatest amounts falling across central and east central Iowa with amounts up to 16.0 inches at Le Claire and 14.7 inches at Madrid. A statewide average of 8.5 inches of snow fell with this storm which is the largest snow event since December 23-27, 2009. Another event on the 25th brought widespread 3 to 6 inch snow totals to the northeast one-half of Iowa but only a dusting over the southwest counties. Calmar reported the most snow with this event with 7.9 inches. Snow also fell across the southern one-third of the state on the 4th with 6.5 inches reported at Shenandoah. Monthly snowfall totals varied from 5.1 inches at Sioux City to 20.0 inches at Hampton. The statewide average snowfall was 12.6 inches or 5.8 inches above normal. This ranks as the 11th snowiest February among 128 years of records (with three recent Februaries of 2008, 2010 and 2014 among those with more snow).

State Climatologist, Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
PRELIMINARY COUNTY PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES, FEBRUARY 2015 (inches)



State Climatologist, Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
PRELIMINARY COUNTY SNOWFALL ESTIMATES, FEBRUARY 2015 (inches)



1.7 or more 1.4 to 1.7 1.1 to 1.4 0.8 to 1.1 0.8 or less

16 or more 14 to 16 12 to 14 10 to 12 10 or less

February 2015 Weather Summary for Iowa, Prepared by Iowa Environmental Mesonet.

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION			HDD TOT	HDD DFN	DAYS OF 32 COLD	DAYS OF 28 COLD
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS				
North West District											
Rock Rapids	46	-14	13	-7	0.43	-0.39	3	1,454	162	26	24
Sheldon	48	-16	13	-7	0.81	-0.11	7	1,444	162	28	28
Sibley	44	-15	12	-8	0.74	-0.18	4	1,486	168	28	28
Sioux Center	49	-11	17	-6	0.38	-0.42	3	1,332	112	27	25
Spirit Lake	46	-14	13	-8	0.21	-0.65	4	1,463	167	28	27
Storm Lake	46	-9	16	-6	0.04	-0.80	1	1,386	110	27	27
North Central District											
Algona	41	-12	12	-9	1.06	0.15	4	1,484	206	26	26
Charles City	40	-25	10	-12	0.94	-0.08	5	1,538	285	28	27
Dakota City	43	-14	12	-10	1.25	0.32	4	1,472	225	27	26
Hampton	43	-20	12	-10	1.35	0.33	3	1,494	230	28	28
Mason City	40	-16	10	-10	1.04	0.13	5	1,536	242	28	28
Osage	39	-12	9	-11	1.37	0.36	6	1,562	275	26	26
North East District											
Cresco	40	-21	8	-11	0.89	-0.08	7	1,610	275	28	28
Decorah	42	-23	12	-10	0.82	-0.19	4	1,487	231	28	28
Dubuque	43	-22	11	-13	1.05	-0.10	4	1,502	320	27	27
Fayette	40	-19	9	-12	1.20	0.05	4	1,570	291	28	28
Manchester	42	-16	8	-13	1.07	-0.06	3	1,593	333	18	18
Tripoli	43	-21	10	-12	1.14	0.12	6	1,552	287	27	27
West Central District											
Audubon	42	-20	14	-11	0.90	-0.14	4	1,433	264	28	26
Carroll	45	-12	12	-11	1.18	0.18	4	1,470	272	24	22
Jefferson	42	-15	12	-13	1.14	0.08	3	1,472	316	26	25
Logan	50	-17	17	-9	1.34	0.42	4	1,342	212	28	28
Mapleton	46	-17	15	-10	0.96	0.15	3	1,386	235	28	26
Rockwell City	45	-12	14	-10	1.12	0.22	3	1,440	231	28	27
Central District											
Boone	46	-16	14	-10	1.52	0.33	4	1,440	238	28	27
Grinnell	44	-22	12	-12	1.25	-0.05	5	1,488	283	28	28
Grundy Center	41	-25	10	-12	1.54	0.51	3	1,537	285	27	26
Iowa Falls	40	-17	11	-11	1.60	0.59	3	1,510	278	28	28
Marshalltown	44	-21	12	-11	1.55	0.45	3	1,473	267	28	28
Webster City	46	-20	12	-10	1.00	0.06	3	1,470	249	28	28
East Central District											
Anamosa	43	-15	13	-11	1.62	0.40	4	1,466	271	28	28
Cedar Rapids	45	-20	15	-11	1.25	0.06	5	1,410	273	28	27
Clinton	43	-14	15	-11	1.49	0.07	4	1,405	282	28	27
Lowden	45	-22	12	-12	1.19	-0.17	2	1,476	293	28	28
Maquoketa	41	-20	10	-14	1.62	0.26	3	1,533	341	28	28
Vinton	41	-19	8	-17	1.57	0.54	4	1,599	424	21	21
South West District											
Atlantic	44	-23	16	-9	0.92	-0.09	5	1,366	211	28	26
Clarinda	51	-18	18	-9	1.36	0.24	3	1,306	218	27	24
Glenwood	51	-11	18	-10	1.38	0.44	2	1,310	229	28	25
Oakland	44	-7	17	-9	1.10	0.08	5	1,344	214	28	26
Red Oak	49	-16	19	-9	2.00	0.84	4	1,290	206	28	24
Sidney	50	-6	19	-10	1.21	0.18	3	1,290	253	26	24
South Central District											
Allerton	45	-14	15	-2	2.01	0.80	5	1,406	301	25	22
Beaconsfield	44	-9	16	-11	1.47	0.12	4	1,365	282	28	25
Centerville	47	-23	15	-13	1.38	0.26	4	1,395	330	25	22
Indianola	44	-17	15	-12	1.82	0.61	4	1,395	286	27	25
Lamoni	49	-6	15	-12	1.42	0.08	2	1,394	311	20	17
Osceola	48	-22	17	-10	1.31	0.14	5	1,352	242	27	25
South East District											
Bloomfield	48	-17	17	-12	1.46	0.16	4	1,358	291	26	24
Donnellson	50	-9	18	-11	1.72	0.14	4	1,320	278	27	26
Fairfield	48	-12	16	-12	1.39	0.01	4	1,382	312	27	25
Keosauqua	48	-20	17	-12	3.60	2.07	4	1,344	312	28	26
Washington	49	-17	15	-13	1.33	0.10	4	1,408	316	28	27