



Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending September 30, 2018
Issued October 1, 2018

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Soggy conditions persisted for yet another week leaving Iowa farmers just **3.1 days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending September 30, 2018, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Activities for the week included seeding cover crops and harvesting corn, soybeans and hay when weather permitted.

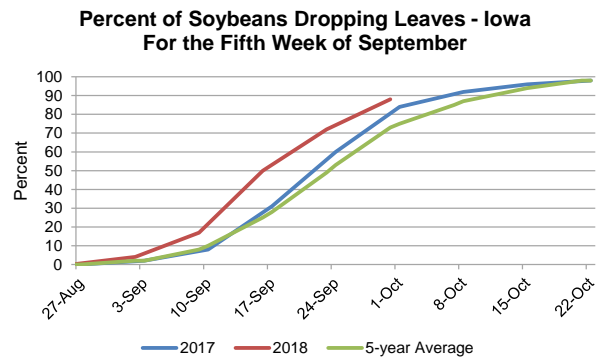
Topsoil moisture levels rated 1 percent very short, 3 percent short, 69 percent adequate and 27 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 3 percent very short, 5 percent short, 67 percent adequate and 25 percent surplus. While topsoil moisture supplies in south central Iowa have improved to above 70 percent rated adequate to surplus, subsoil moisture levels still rated 59 percent short to very short.

Eighty-eight percent of the **corn** crop was mature, just over a week ahead of average. Eleven percent of the State's corn for grain crop has been harvested, 5 days ahead of average. Farmers in southeast Iowa continue to lead the way with 29 percent of their corn for grain harvested. Moisture content of field corn being harvested was at 21 percent. Corn condition rated 75 percent good to excellent. Nearly all of the **soybean** crop was coloring with 88 percent dropping leaves, 9 days ahead of average. Fifteen percent of the soybean crop has been harvested, 1 day ahead of average. Soybean condition rated 74 percent good to excellent.

The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** was nearly complete at 98 percent. **Pasture conditions** improved slightly to 53 percent good to excellent. Pastures have responded well to recent rains and cooler temperatures. Muddy conditions made feedlots challenging.

Crop Condition as of September 30, 2018

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	2	5	18	54	21
Soybeans	2	5	19	53	21
Pasture and range.....	4	11	32	45	8



Field Work and Crop Progress as of September 30, 2018

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 mature	82	88	85	80	92	97	84	99	94	88	74	70	72
Corn harvested for grain.....	8	4	6	6	9	18	20	23	29	11	5	6	6
Soybeans coloring.....	99	98	99	94	100	100	90	98	93	97	93	96	94
Soybeans dropping leaves	91	90	91	83	96	95	76	80	80	88	72	81	73
Soybeans harvested.....	17	9	8	13	20	22	10	5	22	15	8	14	12

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Supplies as of September 30, 2018

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	3.5	2.7	2.1	2.7	2.6	3.0	3.7	4.6	4.2	3.1	3.0	5.1
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	3	1	1	17
Short	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	15	13	3	3	26
Adequate	64	82	66	65	64	69	80	65	77	69	71	56
Surplus	35	18	33	35	35	31	18	9	7	27	25	1
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	13	3	3	20
Short	1	0	3	1	1	0	5	30	26	5	5	32
Adequate	58	75	66	78	70	64	80	40	59	67	66	47
Surplus	40	25	31	21	29	36	15	1	2	25	26	1

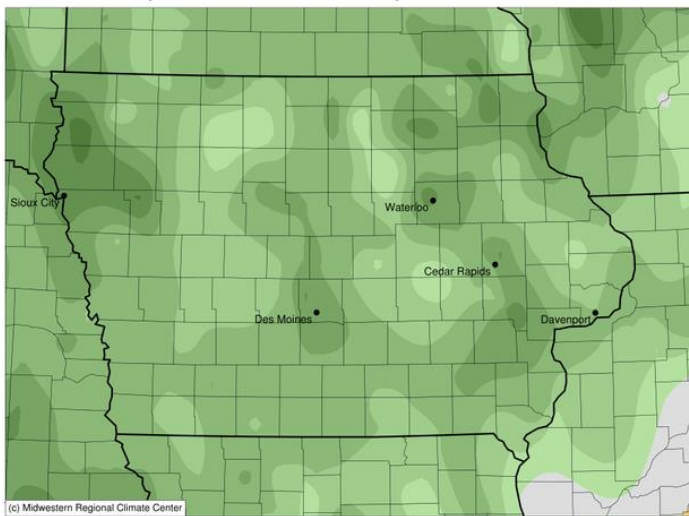
IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

Provided by Justin Glisan, Ph.D., State Climatologist
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

The last week of September brought cooler temperatures, averaging up to four degrees below normal. Iowa's center third had above average rainfall sandwiched between below average accumulations in northern and southern Iowa. Monday (24th) was warm and dry, with average highs between 70 and 80 degrees. The warmest conditions were found in northern Iowa, where highs were up to eight degrees above normal. A cold front moved rapidly across Iowa on Tuesday (25th), bringing locally heavy rainfall to the state's central and eastern portions. Toledo (Tama County) reported the week's highest accumulation of 2.18 inches. Some storms turned severe with 60 mph wind gusts and tree damage reported in Linn County. A brief tornado touchdown occurred in Mechanicsville (Cedar County) causing minor damage. Wednesday (26th) was a pleasant day across Iowa with abundant sunshine and unseasonably cool temperatures. Daytime highs averaged in the mid-60s and overnight lows dipped into the lower 40s. Another cold front moved across Iowa on Thursday (27th) bringing light rain showers to the state's northern half. Guttenberg (Clayton County) reported 0.58 inches of rainfall. Average highs were in the mid-60s, up to eight degrees cooler than normal. Rain continued into an unseasonably cool Friday (28th) with measurable rainfall across much of Iowa. This trend continued into Saturday (29th) and Sunday (30th) with spotty showers and thunderstorms across portions of Iowa. Accumulations were generally under an inch both days. Weekend temperatures were unseasonably cool, with highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s. Holstein (Ida County) observed a high of 48 degrees on Saturday, almost 24 degrees below average; this was the week's coolest reading. The warmest observation was in Burlington (Des Moines County) with a high of 82 degrees on Wednesday, 10 degrees above average. Statewide average rainfall was about 0.08 inches above the normal of 0.72 inches.

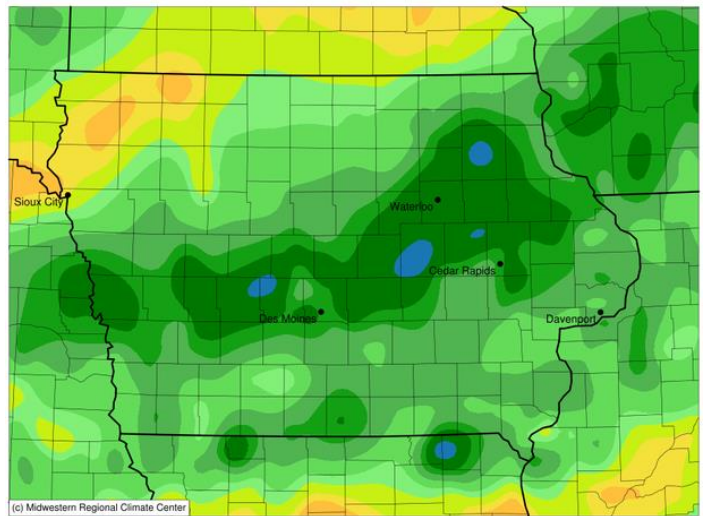
Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals

September 24, 2018 to September 30, 2018



Accumulated Precipitation (in)

September 24, 2018 to September 30, 2018



-7 -2 3
Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwest Regional Climate Center
cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment
Generated at: 10/1/2018 7:14:40 AM CDT

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Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwest Regional Climate Center
cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment
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Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwest Regional Climate Center, are available at: <http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/>