



# Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending September 20, 2020  
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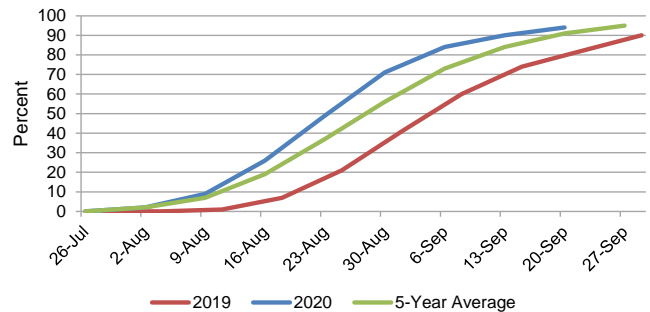
A week without measurable rainfall allowed farmers 6.2 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending September 20, 2020, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Field activities included harvesting corn for silage, fall tillage, moving old crop grain stocks, and harvesting corn for grain and soybeans.

**Topsoil moisture** condition rated 12% very short, 29% short, 56% adequate and 3% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 21% very short, 32% short, 46% adequate and 1% surplus.

**Corn** was 94% in or beyond dent stage, over 2 weeks ahead of the previous year and 4 days ahead of the 5-year average. Two-thirds of the crop has reached maturity, 3 weeks ahead of last year and over a week ahead of average. Corn harvest for grain reached 4% statewide, 17 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of average. Corn condition rated 42% good to excellent, unchanged from the previous week. **Soybeans** coloring or beyond advanced to 90%. That is over 2 weeks ahead of last year and 1 week ahead of average. Two-thirds of the soybean crop was dropping leaves or beyond, also over 2 weeks ahead of last year and 1 week ahead of average. Soybean harvest was 7% complete, 17 days ahead of last year and 6 days ahead of average. Farmers in northwest and west central Iowa led the way with over 10% of their soybeans harvested. Soybean condition rated 48% good to excellent.

**Alfalfa hay** third cutting was 97% complete, a month ahead of last year and over 2 weeks ahead of the 5-year average. **Pasture condition** rated 17% good to excellent. Livestock experienced little stress with cooler temperatures.

**Corn Dented - Iowa  
For the Third Week of September**



**Crop Condition as of September 20, 2020**

Item	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn .....	11	15	32	38	4
Soybeans .....	6	13	33	43	5
Pasture and range .....	17	28	38	16	1

**Crop Progress as of September 20, 2020**

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn dented .....	99	95	93	99	92	91	97	93	85	94	90	80	91
Corn mature .....	83	52	60	68	66	75	72	56	48	66	45	15	45
Soybeans coloring .....	94	99	88	90	93	87	83	80	81	90	79	58	79
Soybeans dropping leaves .....	79	78	56	69	67	61	60	40	52	66	41	17	45
Soybeans harvested .....	16	2	0	11	9	6	5	1	4	7	1	0	2

**Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of September 20, 2020**

Item	Districts									State		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year
	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)	(days)
Days suitable .....	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.5	5.7	6.2	1.4	3.3
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	21	0	4	23	13	1	20	21	8	12	12	1
Short .....	47	14	12	50	29	5	44	24	22	29	21	7
Adequate .....	30	83	82	26	54	88	36	54	67	56	59	75
Surplus .....	2	3	2	1	4	6	0	1	3	3	8	17
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	34	9	2	50	20	1	28	25	14	21	20	2
Short .....	42	42	14	41	32	8	54	25	21	32	31	9
Adequate .....	23	49	83	9	47	85	18	49	62	46	46	79
Surplus .....	1	0	1	0	1	6	0	1	3	1	3	10

# IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY

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

Reports from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and maps from the Midwestern Regional Climate Center reflect data collected from 7:00 A.M. Central Time on September 14, 2020, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on September 20, 2020.

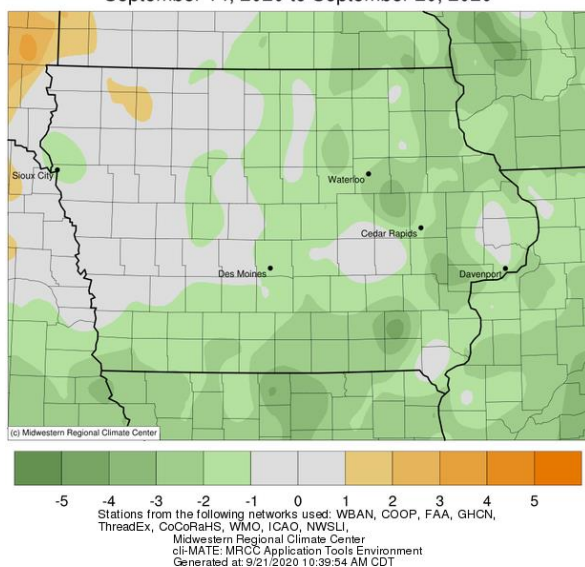
Cooler and drier conditions persisted across the state through the reporting period as a quieter weather pattern settled over the Midwest. High-level smoke from western wildfire produced many hazy days as temperatures were up to three degrees below average in eastern Iowa; near normal conditions were reported across much of western Iowa with a statewide average temperature of 61.0 degrees, 1.2 degrees below normal. After the wettest week of the reporting season, no measurable rainfall was reported across Iowa, leading to deficits on the order of 0.60 inch to over 0.80 inch.

Sunny and seasonal conditions greeted Iowa Sunday (13<sup>th</sup>) afternoon as clouds finally cleared the state. Daytime temperatures were seasonal, in the mid to upper 70s with variable winds. Under clear skies, morning lows on Monday (14<sup>th</sup>) dipped into the low 50s with low-level patchy fog observed at locations around the state. Winds shifted to a southerly direction during the afternoon as temperatures pushed into the upper 70s and low 80s. Tuesday (15<sup>th</sup>) was a warmer day across Iowa as southerly winds picked up under clear skies. High temperatures peaked in the low to mid 80s, slightly warmer than normal. Overnight lows into Wednesday (16<sup>th</sup>) were in the upper 50s and low 60s with partly cloudy conditions reported in southern Iowa. A weak cold front propagated northwest to southeast through the day, shifting winds to a northerly direction and ushering in cooler air. Temperatures ranged from the low 70s north to low 80s south; southeastern Iowa reported some mid 80 degree readings. Skies stayed mostly clear allowing morning lows to drop into the mid 40s to low 50s. With a dome of high pressure dominating the upper Midwest, conditions remained unseasonably cool, sunny and dry across Iowa. Temperatures stayed in the 60s and low 70s with a statewide average high of 69 degrees, five degrees below normal.

Thursday (17<sup>th</sup>) was another cool day across Iowa with temperatures in the mid 60s north to low 70s south under sunny skies and a light northerly wind. Overnight temperatures into Friday (18<sup>th</sup>) were chilly across northern Iowa, where upper 30s were reported at some stations. Temperatures did vary across the state, however, with low 50s across southern Iowa and 40s moving north. The statewide average low was 44 degrees, six degrees colder than normal. A westerly wind built in through the day as cloud cover filtered across eastern Iowa. Afternoon highs remained in the mid 60s east to low 70s west, still cooler than expected for this time of year. A high pressure system to the east of Iowa produced southerly winds into Saturday (19<sup>th</sup>) morning with partly cloudy conditions throughout the state. Winds picked up into the afternoon hours as temperatures remained consistent with the previous day. A copper colored sunrise greeted the state on Sunday (20<sup>th</sup>) as high-level wildfire smoke persisted. Morning lows were generally in the mid 50s, though upper 40s were reported in eastern Iowa.

While the normal precipitation for the week is 0.77 inch, no measurable precipitation fell across the state during the reporting period. Four southeastern Iowa stations reported the week's high temperature of 86 degrees on the 16<sup>th</sup>, on average nine degrees above normal. Mason City Municipal Airport (Cerro Gordo County) reported the week's low temperature of 35 degrees on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 12 degrees below normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals  
September 14, 2020 to September 20, 2020



Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals  
September 14, 2020 to September 20, 2020

