



Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending October 18, 2020
Issued October 19, 2020

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Harvest is nearing completion for some as Iowa farmers had **6.4 days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending October 18, 2020, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Other field activities again included baling corn stalks, applying fertilizer and manure, and fall tillage. Cover crops are beginning to green up where early planting was possible.

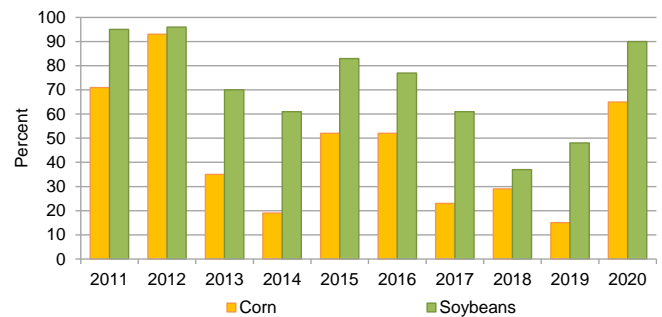
Topsoil moisture condition rated 18% very short, 40% short, 42% adequate and 0% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 22% very short, 39% short, 39% adequate and 0% surplus.

Corn for grain harvested in the State reached 65%, over 3 weeks ahead of last year and just over 2 weeks ahead of average. Moisture content of field corn being harvested for grain fell to 16%. Farmers in south central Iowa still have approximately two-thirds of their corn for grain yet to be harvested while farmers in the remainder of the State have already harvested at least one-half of their crop.

Only 10% of Iowa's **soybean** crop remains to be harvested, also over 3 weeks ahead of last year and over 2 weeks ahead of average. Farmers in northwest, north central and west central Iowa have less than 5% of their soybeans remaining to be harvested. In contrast, farmers in the southern one-third of the state have at least 20% of their soybeans remaining to be harvested.

Pasture condition rated 20% good to excellent. Some pastures are already dormant. Cattle producers in some areas continue to supplement hay and water supplies. There were scattered reports of cows turned out on corn stalks.

Corn for Grain and Soybeans Harvested - Iowa For the Third Week of October: 2011-2020



Crop Condition as of October 18, 2020

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range.....	14	27	39	19	1

Crop Progress as of October 18, 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 harvested for grain.....	84	70	55	75	70	58	51	34	50	65	42	13	29
Soybeans harvested.....	98	98	89	96	94	91	76	67	79	90	78	39	52

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of October 18, 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.....	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.1	6.4	6.5	6.1	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.6	5.1
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	30	11	0	38	16	3	27	21	13	18	17	0
Short	42	39	7	49	48	41	49	48	40	40	34	1
Adequate	27	50	92	13	36	56	24	31	47	42	49	78
Surplus	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	30	16	0	54	19	4	33	19	11	22	21	0
Short	52	41	11	41	43	37	55	40	24	39	37	2
Adequate	17	43	88	5	38	59	12	41	65	39	42	78
Surplus	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20

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 October 12, 2020, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on October 18, 2020.

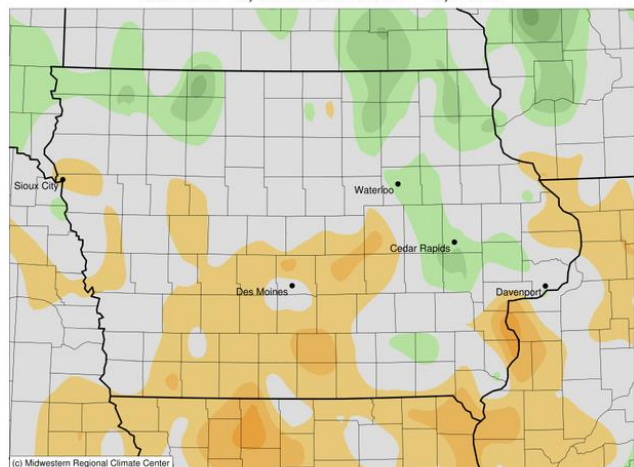
Temperatures across the state over the reporting period varied from slightly cooler than average over portions of northern Iowa to slightly warmer conditions in southern Iowa. The statewide average temperature was 51.1 degrees, 1.1 degrees below normal. Measurable precipitation, including some snow, was reported across much of the state with above average totals observed in northwestern Iowa; some stations collected from 1.00 to 2.00 inches more than normal. The rest of Iowa experienced drier than normal conditions with negative departures over 0.50 inch.

Unseasonably warm temperatures were recorded Sunday (11th) afternoon with highs reaching into the low to mid 80s, up to 22 degrees above average. A strong cold front pushed into western Iowa during the evening hours, firing a line of strong thunderstorms. Some storms turned severe with several reports of straight-line winds causing tree damage; a 61 mph wind gust was reported in Shenandoah (Fremont County). Rain totals reported at 7:00 am on Monday (12th) were highest in the state's northwestern one-third with general amounts in the range of 0.50 inch to 1.00 inch. Seventeen stations reported an inch or more with Sioux Rapids (Buena Vista County) observing 1.76 inches while Rock Valley (Sioux County) reported over three inches. Precipitation totals tailed off to a few tenths of an inch southeast into central Iowa with a statewide average of 0.22 inch. The front continued through eastern Iowa during the late afternoon with winds shifting to the northwest. Clearing skies west to east helped temperatures push into the mid 60s statewide. A secondary, weak cold front sped through Iowa on Tuesday (13th) leaving behind very light rain totals in the northeast. Daytime temperatures behind the front ranged from the low 60s northwest to mid 70s southeast. Southerly winds increased overnight into Wednesday (14th) as a low pressure approached Iowa from the west. Strong winds continued through the afternoon hours with partly cloudy conditions reported across northern and central Iowa.

Winds died down overnight under clearing conditions on Thursday (15th) morning with chilly temperatures in the low to mid 30s across northern Iowa. Afternoon highs were also cooler than average, reaching only into the 50s with an average high of 54 degrees, nine degrees below normal. Spotty showers developed behind a low pressure system over the Great Lakes into Friday (16th) with very light rain totals reported in eastern Iowa; Elma (Howard County) reported 0.05 inch. Southerly winds increased into Saturday (17th) in advance of the next weather system to impact Iowa. Afternoon temperatures were pleasant, ranging from the mid 60s north to upper 60s and some 70s in the south. Cloud cover increased through the late evening hours as a cold front approached western Iowa. Overnight into Sunday (18th), rain and some early season snow fell across much of Iowa, with a portion of west-central Iowa reporting snow totals above an inch; Perry (Dallas County) reported 2.7 inches while the Des Moines National Weather Service office in Johnston (Polk County) measured one inch of new snow. Liquid equivalent precipitation was under 0.50 inches with a majority of observations less than 0.20 inch. Morning temperatures remained in the 30s with some low to mid 20s readings in northern Iowa.

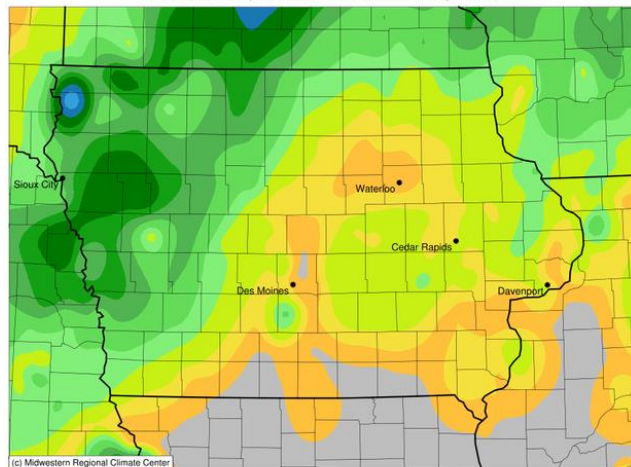
Weekly precipitation totals ranged from no accumulation at several southern Iowa stations to 3.15 inches in Rock Valley (Sioux County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.32 inch, while the normal is 0.51 inch. Logan (Harrison County), Sac City (Sac County) and Shenandoah (Page County) reported the week's high temperature of 86 degrees on the 11th, on average 20 degrees above normal. Estherville Municipal Airport (Emmet County) reported the week's low temperature of 23 degrees on the 18th, 12 degrees below normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals
October 12, 2020 to October 18, 2020



Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwestern Regional Climate Center
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Accumulated Precipitation (in)
October 12, 2020 to October 18, 2020



Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSLI, Midwestern Regional Climate Center
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