



# Iowa Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

For the week ending September 19, 2021  
Issued September 20, 2021

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Another warm, mostly dry week across the State allowed Iowa's farmers 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 19, 2021, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Field activities included harvesting hay, finishing corn silage and starting on earlage.

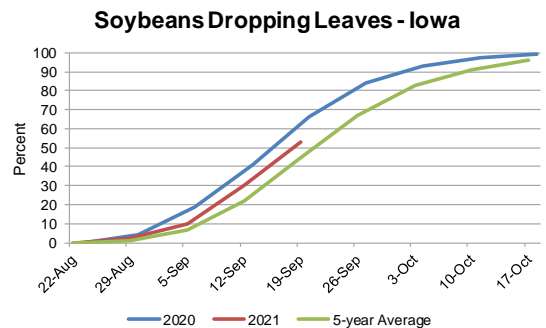
**Topsoil moisture** levels rated 10% very short, 30% short, 59% adequate and 1% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** levels rated 15% very short, 37% short, 48% adequate and 0% surplus.

The warm windy weather helped crops dry down and push toward maturity. **Corn** in or beyond the dent stage reached 93%, four days ahead of the 5-year average. Half of Iowa's corn crop has reached maturity, two days ahead of normal. Iowa's corn condition rated 58% good to excellent. Producers have started corn harvest in many parts of the State. **Soybeans** coloring or beyond reached 86%, four days ahead of the 5-year average. Soybeans dropping leaves reached 53%, three days ahead of normal. Soybean condition was rated 61% good to excellent. Soybean harvest began in parts of Iowa during the week.

The third cutting of **alfalfa hay** reached 97% complete. Some farmers were working on the fourth and in some areas the fifth cutting of hay. **Pasture condition** was rated 29% good to excellent. In general, livestock were doing well.

## Crop Condition as of September 19, 2021

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn .....	2	7	33	48	10
Pasture and range.....	8	21	42	27	2
Soybeans .....	2	6	31	50	11



## Crop Progress as of September 19, 2021

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 .....	97	93	90	95	91	91	96	91	91	93	87	93	90
Corn mature .....	51	39	43	52	57	57	58	52	50	50	32	63	46
Hay, alfalfa, third cutting .....	97	97	99	96	99	100	92	99	92	97	92	97	94
Soybeans coloring .....	94	91	88	85	84	84	89	80	75	86	67	88	78
Soybeans dropping leaves .....	54	59	55	52	65	60	47	38	30	53	30	62	45

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of September 19, 2021

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.....	5.4	6.3	5.7	5.6	6.1	6.9	6.2	6.9	7.0	6.1	6.2	6.2
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short .....	6	1	2	11	14	20	2	23	20	10	9	12
Short .....	18	23	28	24	39	45	40	37	28	30	26	29
Adequate .....	74	75	68	65	44	35	54	40	52	59	63	56
Surplus .....	2	1	2	0	3	0	4	0	0	1	2	3
Subsoil moisture												
Very short .....	14	9	3	21	17	24	4	18	23	15	14	21
Short .....	48	37	26	46	42	31	42	25	20	37	37	32
Adequate .....	38	53	70	33	41	45	54	57	57	48	48	46
Surplus .....	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

# 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 13, 2021, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on September 19, 2021.

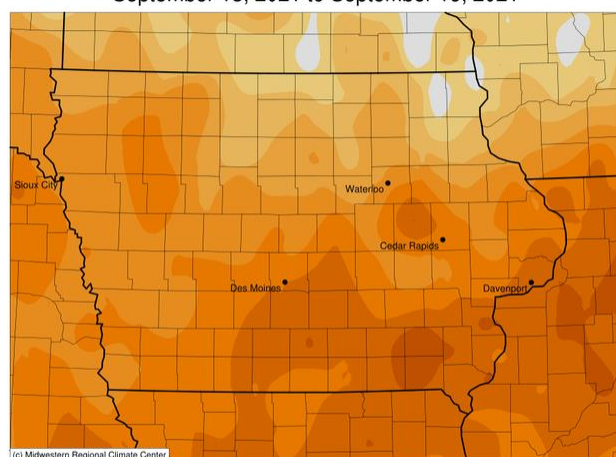
While widespread rain fell across much of the state, unseasonable dryness persisted through the reporting period with the driest conditions found in southeastern Iowa; precipitation deficits of over 0.80 inch were observed with wetter conditions over Iowa’s northern half. Iowa also experienced warmer than average conditions with positive departures near seven degrees in southern Iowa. The statewide average temperature was 68.8 degrees, 5.9 degrees above normal.

A slow moving cold front continued to push across Iowa through Sunday (12<sup>th</sup>) afternoon, bringing scattered light rain showers to portions of Iowa. Daytime highs varied from the mid 80s in front of the boundary to low 70s behind with clearing skies. A line of heavier thundershowers formed over northeastern Iowa as the sluggish front approached the Iowa-Wisconsin border, leaving behind heavier rainfall. Totals reported at 7:00 am on Monday (13<sup>th</sup>) showed general totals of between 0.10 inch to 0.25 inch over much of Iowa’s northwestern half with a pocket of measurements above 0.50 inch centered near Waterloo (Black Hawk County); Independence (Buchanan County) observed 0.92 inch. A secondary warm front set up from west to east through the day, locking in warm temperatures across Iowa’s southern two thirds; north of the front, highs hovered around the mid 70s while mid 80s were reported south of the front. A low pressure center entered eastern Iowa around sunset, firing off stronger thunderstorms a few hours later; a severe-warned cell dropped 1.50-inch hail in Auburn (Sac County). Heavier showers also formed in northeastern Iowa as several stations reported a few tenths of an inch with Elkader (Clayton County) and Lake Mills (Winnebago County) both observing 0.33 inch. Winds shifted to a northerly direction as the low moved out of Iowa late Tuesday (14<sup>th</sup>) morning. Cloud cover gradually cleared off with afternoon temperatures in the upper 60s north to low 70s south. Generally dry conditions were observed into Wednesday (15<sup>th</sup>) as high pressure reigned across the Upper Midwest. Morning temperatures were chilly over northern Iowa with low to mid 40s observed at several stations while low 50s blanketed the rest of Iowa. Daytime highs remained near seasonal, in the upper 70s and some low 80s, under mostly sunny skies and light southerly winds.

Thursday (16<sup>th</sup>) was warm with highs pushing into the upper 80s and low 90s in the northwest with gusty winds out of the south and clear skies; low to mid 80s were observed farther southeast with the statewide average high at 86 degrees, ten degrees above normal. A strong line of thunderstorms moved into northwestern Iowa along a cold front after midnight producing several reports of severe straight-line winds. The line weakened and continued across Iowa through Friday (17<sup>th</sup>) morning before dissipating. A secondary line of thundershowers popped up over extreme southeastern Iowa later in the afternoon. More than half of Iowa’s stations reported measurable rainfall below 0.20 inch with higher amounts in the northwest and southeast; Rockwell City (Calhoun County) measured 0.88 inch while Mount Pleasant (Henry County) reported 0.80 inch. Overnight conditions into Saturday (18<sup>th</sup>) were cooler than average behind the cold front with lows ranging from the low to mid 40s north to upper 50s south. Daytime temperatures reached into the mid to upper 80s in southern Iowa with upper 70s northeast under clear skies. Starry skies and a near full moon were visible through early Sunday (19<sup>th</sup>) morning with temperatures in the 60s, up to 12 degrees above average.

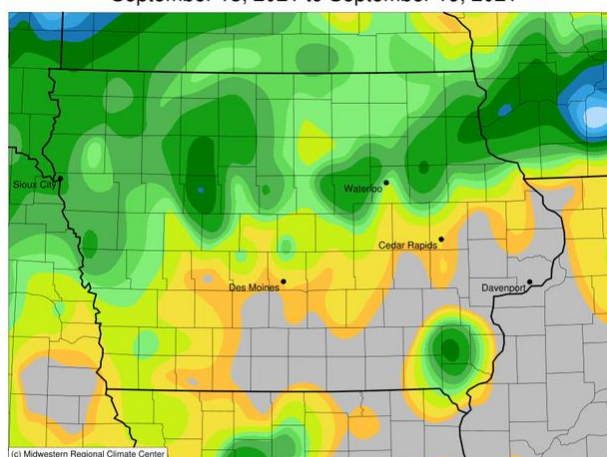
Weekly rain totals ranged from no accumulation at stations in southeastern Iowa to 1.04 inches near Harpers Ferry (Allamakee County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.16 inch while the normal is 0.77 inch. Little Sioux (Harrison County) observed the week’s high temperature of 92 degrees on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 15 degrees above normal. Mason City Municipal Airport (Cerro Gordo County) reported the week’s low temperature of 41 degrees on the 18<sup>th</sup>, seven degrees below normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals  
September 13, 2021 to September 19, 2021



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)  
September 13, 2021 to September 19, 2021



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