

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Iowa Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

May 15, 2023 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Warm, but wet, weather meant Iowa farmers had just 3.6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 14, 2023, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. The warmth helped crop emergence this week; however, the wet conditions marginally slowed planting progress. Farmers were still planting corn, soybeans, and oats during the dry periods of the week. Other reports of interest were concerns for isolated flooding and for a swath of large hail across the central portion of the State.

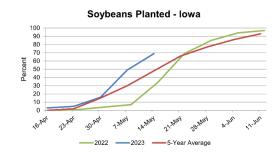
Topsoil moisture condition rated 3 percent very short, 14 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 6 percent very short, 23 percent short, 68 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus.

Eighty-six percent of Iowa's expected **corn** crop has been planted, 8 days ahead of last year and 1 week ahead of the 5-year average. Thirty-five percent of the corn crop has emerged, 6 days ahead of last year and 2 days ahead of the average. One-fifth of Iowa's expected **soybean** crop was planted during the week ending May 14, 2023, for a total of 69 percent planted, just over a week ahead of both last year and the average. Nineteen percent of soybeans have emerged, 9 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of normal. Nearly all the **oat** crop has been planted with 83 percent emerged, 9 days ahead of last year and 5 days ahead of the average. The first oat condition rating of the season was 1 percent very poor, 2 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 64 percent good and 13 percent excellent.

Hay condition improved to 72 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** jumped to 53 percent good to excellent. Reports of livestock turned out to pasture and grazing were received.

Crop Condition as of May 14, 2023

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Hay, all	1	7	20	58	14	
Oats	1	2	20	64	13	
Pasture and range .	2	17	28	43	10	



Crop Progress as of May 14, 2023

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	sw	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn planted Corn emerged	92 32	87 32	87 20	81 28	82 39	89 44	82 37	89 46	89 53	86 35	70 6	51 7	72 28
Oats emerged	88 63 10	97 69 16	83 78 6	84 57 13	70 72 16	92 79 32	69 66 19	77 67 32	76 82 39	83 69 19	61 49 3	54 30	70 48

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of May 14, 2023

	Districts										State			
Item	NW	NC	NE	WC	С	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year		
	(days)	(days)												
Days suitable	3.6	3.0	4.2	3.4	3.3	4.3	4.0	3.3	3.5	3.6	5.7	5.2		
	(percent)	(percent)												
Topsoil moisture														
Very short	4	1	0	3	1	0	4	2	10	3	6	1		
Short	22	5	5	20	12	18	18	9	20	14	27	11		
Adequate	64	86	84	74	77	78	74	84	64	76	64	81		
Surplus	10	8	11	3	10	4	4	5	6	7	3	7		
Subsoil moisture														
Very short	5	1	1	14	5	3	8	4	9	6	8	4		
Short	41	11	4	35	21	24	26	9	31	23	33	20		
Adequate	53	83	90	50	69	71	62	80	57	68	56	70		
Surplus	1	5	5	1	5	2	4	7	3	3	3	6		

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.

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 May 8, 2023, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on May 14, 2023.

Iowa experienced unseasonably wet conditions as a very active storm track brought several waves of showers and thunderstorms to Iowa. Multiple rounds of severe storms produced large hail, gusty winds and weak tornadoes along with heavy rains. Stations across northern Iowa registered rain totals of two to six inches above average. Temperatures were also unseasonably warm with departures from four to 10 degrees east to west; the statewide average temperature was 66.9 degrees, 7.7 degrees above normal.

Scattered thunderstorms moved across northern and central Iowa on Sunday (7th) afternoon with strong to severe storms firing towards the evening hours. Thunderstorms consolidated into a severe-warned line in eastern Iowa, fueled by highs in the upper 80s and low 90s and ample instability. A secondary line of severe thunderstorms formed in western Iowa and joined a complex in northeastern Iowa that dove through southeastern Iowa into early Monday (8th) morning. Widespread reports of large hail up to 2.75 inches and straight-line winds were found over the southern half of Iowa with a brief EF-1-rated tornado in Muscatine County. Stronger thunderstorms brought heavier rains with over 100 stations measuring an inch or more and a statewide average rainfall of 0.71 inches; ten stations observed at least 2.00 inches with 2.54 inches reported in Le Claire (Scott County). Tuesday (9th) was a generally pleasant day with easterly winds, mostly clear skies and temperatures in the 70s. Wednesday (10th) saw southeasterly winds build in with partly cloudy skies in western Iowa as afternoon highs made it into the low to mid 80s; upper 70s were observed east. Isolated storms formed in northwestern Iowa and then, more broadly, across the Iowa-Minnesota border after midnight on Thursday (11th). A separate wave of moderate rainfall propagated north over the state through the day as clouds held highs in the mid-70s with low 80s interspersed. Rain totals were above 0.25 inches at most stations with a statewide average of 0.34 inches; early morning thunderstorms trained over Mitchell County produced a 4.83 inch reading at Osage.

Showers lingered in northern Iowa through Friday (12th) morning as temperatures gradually climbed into the upper 70s and low 80s in western Iowa. A potent low-pressure center in Nebraska forced severe thunderstorms that pushed across the western border into the evening hours, leaving behind multiple reports of strong winds and torrential downpours; 10 northwest stations measured more than two inches over several hours. A separate line of thunderstorms brought more rainfall to central Iowa early on Saturday (13th) with morning lows in the 60s. As a warm front lifted north through the day, unseasonable warmth, ample moisture and atmospheric wind shear popped discrete supercells in east-central and northwest Iowa. Several thunderstorms put down brief, multi-vortex tornadoes around Knoxville (Marion County) with more reports of weak tornadoes in Buena Vista, Calhoun and Pocahontas counties. Weak steering flow impeded normal storm motion with several slow-moving storms producing anomalous rainfall rates; two gauges in Pocahontas County, located in Varina and Havelock observed 4.62 inches and 4.95 inches, respectively. Statewide totals were highest over Iowa's northern one-third and a pocket of central Iowa with many stations reporting over 2.00 inches; widespread totals between 0.75 and 1.00 inches were also prevalent. Winds shifted to the east-northeast into Sunday (14th) with rain still falling in northern Iowa as morning lows held in the 60s south to low 50s north.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.27 inches near Council Bluffs (Pottawattamie County) to 5.24 inches in Osage. The statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.72 inches, more than double the normal of 0.85 inches. Osceola (Clarke County) and Shenandoah (Page County) recorded the week's high temperature of 91 degrees on the 7th, on average 21 degrees above normal. Rockwell City (Calhoun County) reported the week's low temperature of 42 degrees on the 8th, three degrees below normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals May 08, 2023 to May 14, 2023

5 10
Stations from the following networks used: WBAN, COOP, FAA, GHCN, ThreadEx, CoCoRaHS, WMO, ICAO, NWSU,
Midwestern Regional Climate Center cli-MATE: MRCC Application Tools Environment Generated at: 5/15/2023 11:12:14

Accumulated Precipitation (in)

