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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

October 30, 2023 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Moderate rainfall during the week slowed harvest in some areas as Iowa’s farmers had an average of 4.2 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending October 29, 2023, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Fieldwork included harvesting row crops, completing fall tillage, applying fall fertilizer, baling stalks, and hauling manure.

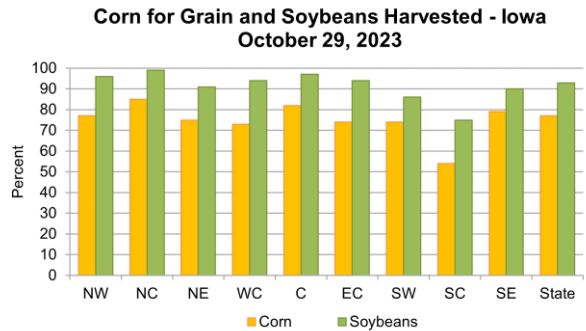
Topsoil moisture condition rated 12 percent very short, 35 percent short, 51 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 25 percent very short, 42 percent short, 31 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Corn harvested for grain reached 77 percent statewide, 1 day ahead of last year and 8 days ahead of the 5-year average. Moisture content of field corn being harvested for grain remained steady at 17 percent. **Soybeans** harvested reached 93 percent, on pace with last year but 8 days ahead of the average.

Pasture condition improved slightly to 20 percent good to excellent. Livestock conditions were reported as generally good but getting water to pastured cattle continued to be an issue for some producers.

Crop Condition as of October 29, 2023

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range	14	24	42	18	2



Crop Progress as of October 29, 2023

Item	Districts									State			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	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 harvested for grain	77	85	75	73	82	74	74	54	79	77	62	74	62
Soybeans harvested	96	99	91	94	97	94	86	75	90	93	87	93	84

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of October 29, 2023

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	3.3	4.5	4.0	4.8	4.7	3.9	4.6	4.8	3.8	4.2	5.7	5.9
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	8	13	5	23	12	12	9	0	21	12	16	24
Short	20	42	26	43	44	25	39	32	49	35	38	44
Adequate	69	45	65	31	43	62	49	63	27	51	44	32
Surplus	3	0	4	3	1	1	3	5	3	2	2	0
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	9	28	7	45	33	31	18	12	39	25	28	26
Short	40	45	37	41	39	51	49	40	39	42	43	45
Adequate	49	27	53	11	28	18	31	44	19	31	28	29
Surplus	2	0	3	3	0	0	2	4	3	2	1	0

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 October 23, 2023, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on October 29, 2023.

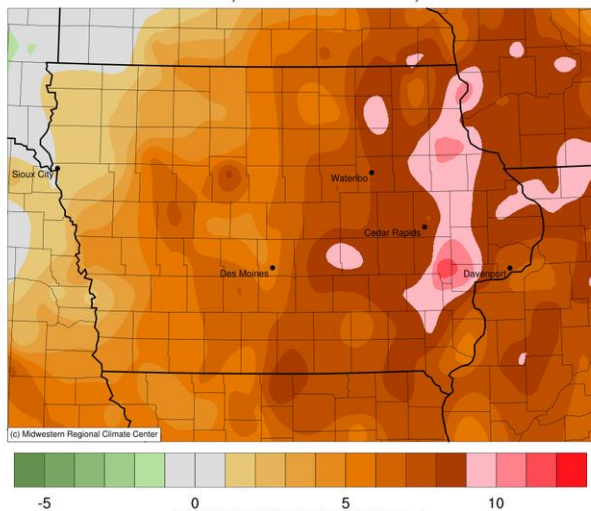
Several weather disturbances brought widespread rains and the first measurable snow across northwest Iowa late in the reporting period; much of Iowa received above-average precipitation. Unseasonable warmth persisted until a Canadian airmass ushered in winter-like temperatures over the weekend; the statewide average was 53.0 degrees, 6.7 degrees above normal.

Sunny skies and southerly winds helped boost Sunday (22nd) afternoon temperatures into the mid 60s west while stations in eastern Iowa remained in the upper 50s. Showers pushed into western Iowa through the evening with additional thundershowers forming across northern Iowa into Monday (23rd) morning. Many north-central stations reported amounts between 0.25-0.75 inch with widespread totals over the state's northern half in the 0.10-0.25 inch range. Clouds cleared through the late morning as daytime highs rose into the upper 70s with low 80s observed in central Iowa; the statewide average high was 76 degrees, 17 degrees above normal. Isolated strong storms fired in northwestern Iowa just before midnight, leaving behind 1.00-inch hail and 0.34 inches of rain in Spencer (Clay County). Showers streamed into southern and eastern Iowa through Tuesday (24th) ahead of a low pressure center moving toward the state. Skies were partly to mostly cloudy with afternoon temperatures in the 70s with a strong southerly wind. Pockets of rainfall persisted in eastern Iowa overnight into Wednesday (25th) as lows ranged from the mid 50s north to low 60s south. Widespread totals of around 0.10 inches were reported with several north-central and southeast stations registering totals in the 0.50-1.00 inch range; Burt (Kossuth County) hit 0.60 inches with 1.32 inches near Keokuk (Lee County). Afternoon conditions remained overcast with highs in the low to mid 60s. Showers across northern Missouri pushed into Iowa's southeast half through the evening hours and continued overnight into Thursday (26th) with lows mirroring daytime highs.

Showers and some thunderstorms held on over eastern Iowa into the late evening with additional cells forming as the low pressure center and cold front propagated east. Strong northwesterly winds developed behind the front with quite the spread of morning temperatures; mid to upper 60s were registered southeast to low 30s northwest. Rain totals for the previous 48 hours reported at 7:00 am on Friday (27th) highlighted more the 120 stations observing at least 1.00 inch with heavier totals in eastern Iowa; an observer in Cedar Rapids (Linn County) reported 2.02 inches with 2.45 inches in Monticello (Jones County) and a statewide average of 0.83 inches. Gusty northwesterly winds held on through the day with clouds clearing western Iowa late in the day. High temperatures were 10-20 degrees below normal with mid 30s west to mid 40s east. Overcast skies continued into Saturday (28th) morning as moderate snow showers pushed into northwestern Iowa before daybreak. Light snow and flurries continued over portions of northern Iowa through much of the day; measurable snow was observed at 34 stations and varied from trace amounts to 4.00 inches at Cherokee (Cherokee County), Sioux City (Woodbury County) and Spencer (Clay County). Afternoon conditions were cloudy and cold with upper 20s in northern Iowa and several low 40 degree-readings in the southeast; the statewide average high was 37 degrees, 18 degrees below normal. Overnight lows into Sunday (29th) did not drop appreciably as northerly winds remained.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.04 inches at Pacific Junction (Mills County) to 2.64 inches in Monticello. The statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.00 inch, more than double the normal of 0.48 inches. Several stations reported the week's high temperature of 83 degrees on the 24th, on average 23 degrees above normal. Several northwestern stations reported the week's low temperature of 22 degrees on the 28th and 29th, on average nine degrees below normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
October 23, 2023 to October 29, 2023



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
October 23, 2023 to October 29, 2023

