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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

April 8, 2024 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Another week of colder than normal temperatures with rain and snow left Iowa farmers with **2.8 days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending April 7, 2024, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Minimal fieldwork was done during the week, but some producers were able to apply anhydrous, manure, and dry fertilizer. High winds prevented producers from spraying fertilizer towards the end of the week.

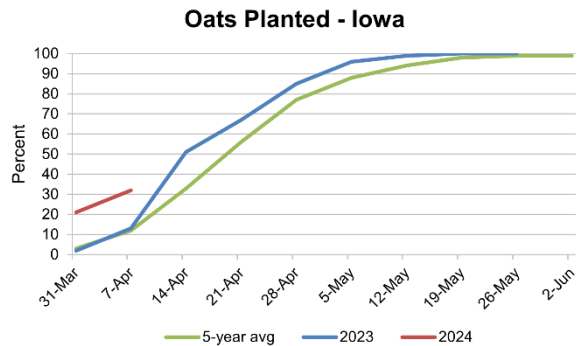
Topsoil moisture condition rated 14 percent very short, 35 percent short, 47 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 26 percent very short, 38 percent short, 34 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus.

Oats seeding reached 32 percent complete, 6 days ahead of last year and 1 week ahead of the 5-year average. Oats emerged reached 4 percent complete.

There were no reports of cattle turned out onto pasture yet as pastures continue to green up. Calving was in full swing with reports of mud in some areas.

Crop Condition as of April 7, 2024

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and range	7	22	44	23	4



Crop Progress as of April 7, 2024

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)
Oats planted	43	40	27	30	28	43	27	20	23	32	21	10	12

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of April 7, 2024

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	2.4	3.3	2.0	3.8	3.1	2.2	4.0	2.2	1.9	2.8	2.7	3.5
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	4	10	20	18	18	13	28	6	5	14	22	3
Short	40	48	37	35	47	10	33	26	24	35	37	19
Adequate	50	41	41	47	33	65	38	59	62	47	37	73
Surplus	6	1	2	0	2	12	1	9	9	4	4	5
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	27	32	23	24	37	19	34	6	23	26	35	7
Short	26	46	47	49	45	13	43	42	20	38	41	27
Adequate	42	21	29	27	18	66	22	47	55	34	22	62
Surplus	5	1	1	0	0	2	1	5	2	2	2	4

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 April 1, 2024, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on April 7, 2024.

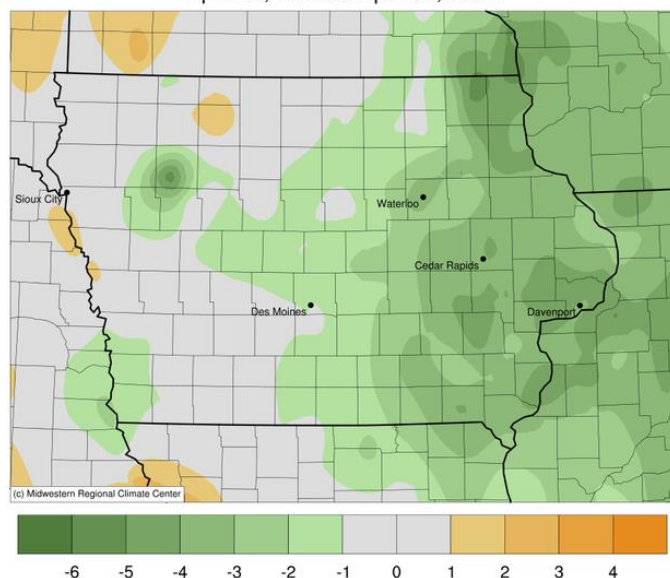
April began unseasonably cool with several windy days across Iowa. Temperatures were near normal in western Iowa and four degrees below average east; Iowa's average temperature was 42.1 degrees, 1.8 degrees below normal. Eastern Iowa experienced above-average precipitation in the range of 125 to 400% of normal, while the southwest corner was unseasonably dry.

Thunderstorms began firing into the afternoon hours of Sunday (31st) over southeast Iowa with some becoming severe-warned; there were a handful of 1.00-inch hail reports in Lee and Van Buren counties. Heavier rain was also reported in these storms with several stations collecting more than an inch of moisture; Fairfield (Jefferson County) measured 1.02 inches while Moulton (Davis County) observed 1.62 inches. Lighter showers formed over northern Iowa into Monday (1st) morning with additional storms forming to the southeast. There was a wide range of afternoon highs with upper 30s north to the mid to upper 50s south along with fog and mist. Winds shifted to a northerly direction after midnight with widespread showers across Iowa as a low pressure center propagated northeast through Missouri. Rain totals reported at 7:00 am on Tuesday (2nd) indicated that most stations accumulated at least 0.20 inches with nearly 100 southeastern stations collecting 0.50 inches or more; several Bloomfield (Davis County) gauges had totals ranging from 0.98 inches to 2.70 inches with a statewide average of 0.43 inches. Precipitation gradually tapered off as clouds thinned in western Iowa, where low to mid 50s were present. Temperatures remained in the low 30s farther east as snow showers wrapped in behind the low pressure center. Snow accumulated at 130 stations with totals ranging from 0.1 inches in Clive (Polk County) to 5.7 inches in Dubuque (Dubuque County). Spotty rain and snow showers continued into Wednesday (3rd) as strong northerly winds built in across the state with sustained winds in the 20-40 mph range; airports in Algona (Kossuth County) and Cedar Rapids (Linn County) reported 52-mph wind gusts. Clouds cleared west to east with daytime temperatures in the 50s where the sun was visible. Precipitation gradually pushed out of eastern Iowa into the evening hours with Bellevue Lock and Dam (Jackson County) collecting 3.0 inches of snow along with an additional 0.50 inches of rain in Bloomfield.

Overnight lows into Thursday (4th) dropped into the upper 20s and low 30s in western Iowa, where stars were present. Persistent cloud cover in eastern Iowa held temperatures in the mid 30s. Overcast conditions remained through the day across Iowa's eastern half with mid to upper 40s and gusty northerly winds; conditions were clear and up to 10 degrees warmer farther west. Winds decreased as the sun set, becoming light and variable into Friday (5th) with lows in the upper 20s in central and northern Iowa. Easterly winds increased through the day with sunny skies and afternoon temperatures in the 50s to low 60s east to west. Gusty southeasterly winds returned on Saturday (6th) as a strong low pressure center approached from the west. Daytime temperatures were the warmest of the week with some stations in the upper 60s while widespread upper 50s and low 60s were reported. A thin line of thundershowers formed in the evening hours in west-central Iowa followed by a broader swath of showers overnight into Sunday (7th). Rain totals were generally under 0.20 inches though amounts approaching 0.50 inches were found in north-central Iowa.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.03 inches in Audubon (Audubon County) to 4.40 inches in DeWitt (Clinton County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 1.02 inches, almost double the normal of 0.66 inches. Sioux City Airport reported the week's high temperature of 69 degrees on the 6th, 11 degrees above average. Elkader (Clayton County) reported the week's low temperature of nine degrees on the 6th, 10 degrees below normal. Four-inch soil temperatures ranged from the low 40s north to upper 40s south as of Sunday.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
April 01, 2024 to April 07, 2024



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 01, 2024 to April 07, 2024

