



Iowa Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

September 22, 2025 - For Immediate Release

Wet conditions for portions of Iowa reduced **days suitable for fieldwork** to 4.9 during the week ending September 21, 2025, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Warm temperatures advanced crop maturity quickly. Fieldwork included the beginning of corn and soybean harvest in many areas.

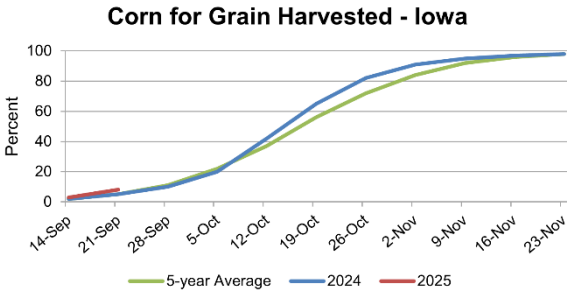
Topsoil moisture condition rated 3 percent very short, 18 percent short, 70 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 2 percent very short, 17 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus.

Ninety-five percent of **corn** was dented or beyond. Sixty-six percent of corn has matured, 4 days ahead of last year and 2 days ahead of the five-year average. The corn for grain harvest has begun and was 8 percent complete. Corn condition rated 1 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 19 percent fair, 55 percent good and 19 percent excellent. **Soybeans** coloring advanced to 89 percent. Sixty-two percent of soybeans were dropping leaves, 2 days ahead of last year and 1 day ahead of average. Soybean condition rated 1 percent very poor, 4 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 57 percent good and 17 percent excellent.

Pasture condition rated 60 percent good to excellent.

Crop Condition as of September 21, 2025

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	1	6	19	55	19
Pasture and range ..	1	7	32	51	9
Soybeans	1	4	21	57	17



Crop Progress as of September 21, 2025

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 dented	98	99	93	92	94	94	92	91	95	95	90	92	94
Corn mature	68	61	52	61	72	78	71	71	68	66	48	58	62
Corn harvested for grain	7	4	4	3	10	8	15	12	16	8	3	5	5
Soybeans coloring	92	95	93	91	84	87	86	81	84	89	73	86	88
Soybeans dropping leaves ...	70	62	54	71	54	61	66	56	54	62	35	55	58

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of September 21, 2025

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	5.0	5.0	5.4	3.7	4.7	6.1	3.9	5.0	5.5	4.9	6.5	6.3
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	0	1	1	2	0	3	2	10	15	3	4	9
Short	3	3	17	14	17	26	29	30	45	18	22	41
Adequate	77	77	79	69	81	70	64	60	39	70	65	49
Surplus	20	19	3	15	2	1	5	0	1	9	9	1
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	0	0	1	4	1	2	4	0	11	2	2	8
Short	5	3	16	13	16	17	30	32	44	17	18	37
Adequate	77	70	81	73	80	80	59	68	44	72	71	54
Surplus	18	27	2	10	3	1	7	0	1	9	9	1

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

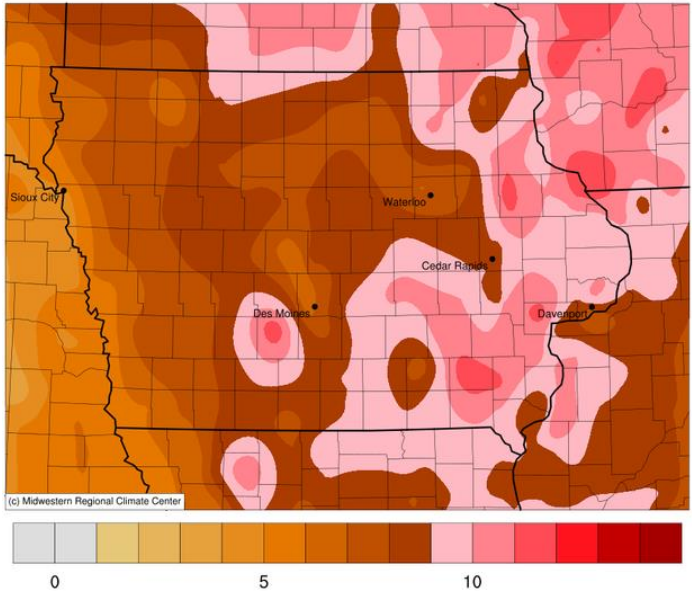
A nearly stationary cut-off low pressure system spun over the Upper Midwest throughout the reporting period, bringing above-normal rainfall to much of Iowa’s western three-quarters. Unseasonal warmth also persisted, with positive departures in the 10- to 12-degree range in eastern and southern Iowa. The statewide average temperature was 71.6 degrees, 8.6 degrees above normal.

Sunday (14th) afternoon was the warmest of the reporting period, with daytime highs in the mid-80s to low 90s under sunny skies; the statewide average high was 90 degrees, 14 degrees above normal. Scattered thunderstorms developed over central Iowa into Monday (15th) morning and continued into northeastern Iowa during the day. Temperatures rebounded into the upper 80s, with some locations in the southeast reaching the 90s. Additional storms formed in eastern Iowa toward evening before dissipating around sunset. Eastern Iowa recorded the highest totals: 1.98 inches in Sigourney (Keokuk County) and 1.99 inches in Mount Auburn (Benton County). Outside of these amounts, a broad swath of 0.25-to-0.75-inch totals extended from east-central to northeast Iowa. Winds shifted southeasterly into Tuesday (16th), bringing mostly clear skies and morning lows in the mid to upper 60s. Pulse thunderstorms developed intermittently throughout the day as the cut-off low pressure system provided energy and instability. With little steering flow, some storms in central and northern Iowa produced locally heavy rainfall and hail. Totals ranged from 2.13 inches in Burt (Kossuth County) to 4.25 inches in Fort Dodge (Webster County). Much of west-central Iowa received at least 0.75 inch, with another pocket of heavier rainfall in northeastern Iowa. Showers and thunderstorms persisted in western and northern Iowa into Wednesday (17th) morning, then shifted into central and eastern Iowa after noon. Temperatures varied widely, from the low 70s northwest to the low 90s southeast. Some storms were severe warned for hail and strong winds. The complex weakened as daytime heating ended, dissipating by nighttime. Four stations reported nearly half of their monthly rainfall in a single day, with totals from 2.01 inches in Carlisle (Warren County) to 2.37 inches in Eagle Grove (Wright County).

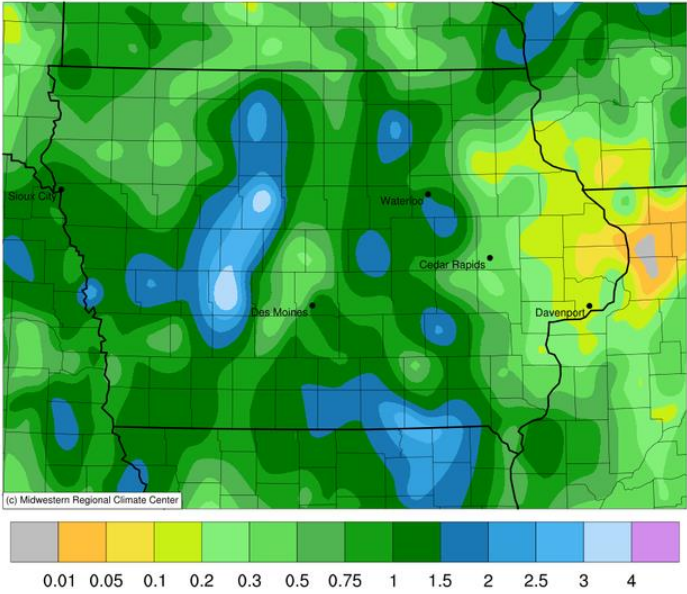
Thursday (18th) began with widespread, locally dense fog produced by warm surface temperatures, ample low-level moisture, and light winds. With the existing unsettled pattern, showers and a few thunderstorms continued across much of the state, though many stations reported lighter totals. In Jefferson (Greene County), two gauges measured 1.54 to 2.10 inches, while in Marshalltown (Marshall County), two additional gauges collected 1.30 to 1.39 inches. Many other stations reported between 0.10 and 0.40 inch, and the statewide average was 0.21 inch. Overcast skies persisted into early Friday (19th) as the stubborn low center over the Dakotas streamed showers into Iowa, particularly in the afternoon and evening. Light to moderate rain continued across southern Iowa through the morning of Saturday (20th) and lasted much of the day. Afternoon temperatures were pleasant, in the upper 60s to low 70s, though sunshine was limited. Southeastern Iowa recorded the heaviest rainfall at 7:00 a.m. on Sunday (21st), with amounts ranging from 1.00 inch at Mount Ayr (Ringgold County) to 2.30 inches in Milton (Davis County).

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from 0.02 inch in Fairfield (Jefferson County) to 4.54 inches in Fort Dodge. The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.90 inch; the normal is 0.83 inch. Donnellson (Lee County) and Washington (Washington County) reported the week’s high temperature of 97 degrees on the 14th, averaging 18 degrees above normal. Spencer Municipal Airport (Clay County) observed the week’s low temperature of 49 degrees on the 21st, one degree above normal.

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals
September 15, 2025 to September 21, 2025



Accumulated Precipitation (in)
September 15, 2025 to September 21, 2025



Temperature and Precipitation Maps, courtesy of the Midwestern Regional Climate Center, are available at: <https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

Additional soil moisture data are available at: <https://nassgeo.csiss.gmu.edu/CropCASMA/>