



Iowa Ag News – Crop Progress & Condition

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Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

July 29, 2024 - For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Greg Thessen

Scattered rainfall allowed Iowa farmers 5.8 **days suitable for fieldwork** during the week ending July 28, 2024, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Field activities included harvesting oats for grain, cutting and baling hay, and applying fungicides.

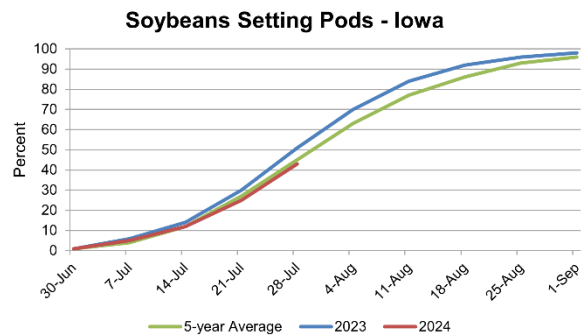
Topsoil moisture condition rated 1 percent very short, 12 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** condition rated 2 percent very short, 11 percent short, 80 percent adequate and 7 percent surplus.

Corn silking hit 85 percent this week, 2 days behind last year but 2 days ahead of the five-year average. Thirty-four percent of the corn crop has reached dough stage or beyond, 1 day ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of average. Two percent of the corn crop has reached the dent stage. Corn condition was rated 77 percent good to excellent. Eighty-three percent of **soybeans** were blooming, 4 days behind last year but 1 day ahead of normal. Soybeans setting pods reached 43 percent, 2 days behind last year. Soybean condition was 76 percent good to excellent. Ninety-six percent of **oats** were turning color or beyond. The oat harvest for grain reached 67 percent complete, 6 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the five-year average.

The State’s second cutting of **alfalfa hay** reached 87 percent complete, 4 days behind last year but 2 days ahead of the five-year average. The State’s third cutting of alfalfa hay reached 16 percent, 6 days behind last year but 2 days ahead of the five-year average. **Hay condition** rated 78 percent good to excellent. **Pasture condition** rated 71 percent good to excellent. Heat stress in livestock was reported.

Crop Condition as of July 28, 2024

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn	1	3	19	58	19
Hay, all	1	3	18	58	20
Pasture and range ..	2	3	24	56	15
Soybeans	1	4	19	59	17



Crop Progress as of July 28, 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)
Corn silking	76	93	76	90	89	86	87	75	87	85	68	88	82
Corn dough	22	37	31	29	39	51	43	28	31	34	18	32	24
Hay, alfalfa, 2nd cutting	97	85	86	91	91	88	97	81	84	87	75	91	85
Hay, alfalfa, 3rd cutting	21	8	11	6	22	27	13	14	18	16	6	29	12
Oats coloring	98	100	94	95	98	93	100	92	97	96	89	97	94
Oats harvested for grain	58	77	55	75	61	77	82	81	76	67	44	50	53
Soybeans blooming	81	86	72	89	79	94	81	64	90	83	69	90	82
Soybeans setting pods	33	44	30	59	41	65	40	26	35	43	25	51	45

Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Condition as of July 28, 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	6.1	5.2	6.0	6.3	5.7	4.3	6.7	6.3	5.5	5.8	5.9	6.2
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	1	0	0	6	1	1	1	2	0	1	1	19
Short	14	9	8	17	5	6	17	26	19	12	10	42
Adequate	75	79	86	70	89	83	79	69	76	80	81	38
Surplus	10	12	6	7	5	10	3	3	5	7	8	1
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	1	0	0	7	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	20
Short	9	4	8	14	7	9	15	23	25	11	10	47
Adequate	81	82	82	73	86	84	81	73	68	80	80	32
Surplus	9	14	10	6	6	6	3	3	6	7	9	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 July 22, 2024, through 7:00 A.M. Central Time on July 28, 2024.

Isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms were observed almost every day of the reporting period, though most of Iowa's stations experienced drier than normal conditions. Weekly temperatures varied from slightly above average across portions of central to northwestern Iowa to cooler east; the statewide average temperature was 73.9 degrees, 0.4 degree below normal.

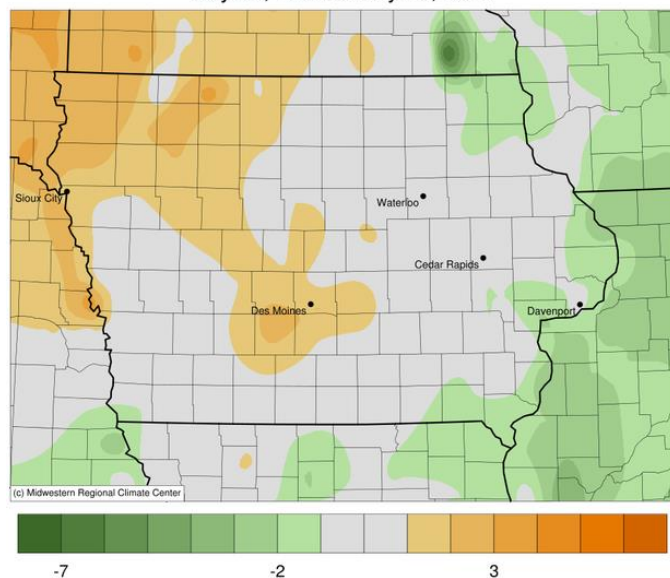
Winds were light and variable through Sunday (21st) afternoon with partly to mostly cloudy skies and temperatures in the upper 70s and low 80s. Scattered thundershowers formed over the evening hours in eastern Iowa before dissipating by midnight. Rain totals were under a few tenths of an inch, though Waterloo (Black Hawk County) observed 1.02 inches. Northern and eastern Iowa encountered foggy conditions at daybreak on Monday (22nd) where morning temperatures were in the low to mid 60s. Later in the day, Canadian wildfire smoke filtered into the state, giving a copper-colored fringe to developing cumulus clouds. Isolated pop-up thunderstorms fired in the afternoon across central and southern Iowa before diminishing with the loss of daytime heating. Rain amounts were at or above 0.50 inches at nearly 30 stations with 1.85 inches in Ames (Story County) to 2.13 inches in Lucas (Lucas County). Overnight lows into Tuesday (23rd) held in the low to mid 60s with patchy fog visible across much of the state. Winds swung to the southwest as daytime highs varied from the 70s east to mid 80s west. Scattered thunderstorms re-fired along an existing outflow boundary from central to eastern Iowa through the afternoon hours with a secondary cluster later in the evening over northwestern Iowa. A new area of convection pushed into east-central Iowa around sunrise on Wednesday (24th) before moving into Illinois by late morning. Rainfall totals were more widespread with a broad swath of 0.50-1.00 inch amounts from northwest to east-central Iowa; two stations, Swisher (Johnson County) and Central City (Linn County) registered 2.10 and 2.60 inches, respectively. Cloud cover remained over northern Iowa through the afternoon behind a southerly moving cold front, holding highs in the mid to upper 70s while clear skies allowed upper 80s and some low 90s farther south. Scattered thunderstorms developed along the boundary later in the day. Lamoni (Decatur County) collected 1.05 inches while Burlington (Des Moines County) reported 1.58 inches; four stations in Lee County reported totals in the 1.07 to 1.48-inch range.

Thursday (25th) morning started with upper 50s and low 60s northeast to widespread upper 60s southwest under overcast skies. Winds shifted to an easterly direction through the daylight hours as highs rose into the upper 70s and low 80s under partly cloudy conditions. Clouds spread over most of Iowa into Friday (26th) with very spotty, slow-moving thunderstorms in southeastern Iowa. Rathbun Dam (Appanoose County) measured 1.40 inches with 2.13 inches in Keokuk (Lee County). A southerly shifting wind helped boost temperatures into the 90s across western Iowa while conditions farther east were more than 10 degrees cooler. A few pulse thunderstorms developed in central Iowa towards the evening with five stations in Dallas and Warren counties collecting more than an inch. Morning lows on Saturday (27th) remained unseasonably warm, in the upper 60s and low 70s, with foggy conditions from south-central to northern Iowa. Afternoon conditions were mostly sunny statewide with temperatures in the mid to upper 80s. A weak low pressure center over Missouri spun showers into eastern Iowa later in the evening and persisted through Sunday (28th) morning; only a handful of stations observed light rainfall totals.

Weekly precipitation totals ranged from no accumulation in western Iowa to 2.76 inches in Robins (Linn County). The statewide weekly average precipitation was 0.59 inches while the normal is 0.97 inches. Little Sioux (Harrison County) reported the week's high temperature of 94 degrees on the 25th, 12 degrees above normal. Sigourney (Keokuk County) reported the week's low temperature of 52 degrees on the 26th, 11 degrees below normal.

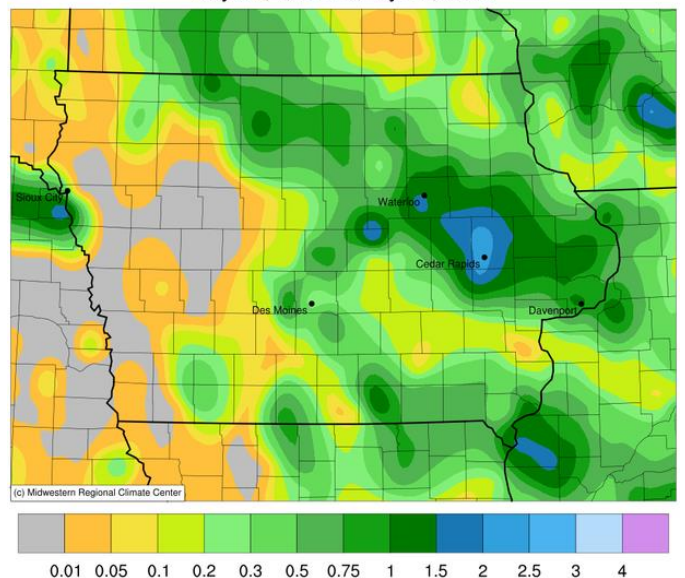
Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

July 22, 2024 to July 28, 2024



Accumulated Precipitation (in)

July 22, 2024 to July 28, 2024



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